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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION

XLIII. CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. INGALLS presented a petition of the citizens of Kansas, asking that measures be taken to issue currency based on real estate securities. Referred.

Mr. BOGY introduced a bill to reimburse Missouri for expenses incurred in arming and equipping troops during the war. Referred.

Mr. THURMAN presented a petition in behalf of the Winnebago Indians of Wisconsin. It sets forth that the tribe is generally wronged under the color of authority of the United States; that life has been destroyed, and that the tribe is deprived of liberty and property. It asks the necessary legislation for their protection. Mr. Thurman said it was not the intention of the law passed last session to use force to remove those Indians. Under the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, these Indians were citizens, and the government has no right to use force to remove them. Affidavits accompanying the petition show that the Indians had been kidnapped and carried away from their homes. He hoped the matter would receive the serious consideration of the Committee on Indian Affairs. The petition was referred to that committee; also, a bill for the relief of the Chickasaw Indians.

Mr. LOGAN introduced a bill authorizing the President to appoint five commissioners to collect information as to the effects of the liquor traffic and the practical working of the prohibitory laws, etc. The commissioners are to serve without pay, not be appointed from civil life, irrespective of political considerations.

The morning hour having expired, the consideration of the resolution reported by the Finance Committee was resumed.

Mr. WRIGHT addressed the Senate. He had listened attentively to get light on the subject, but he feared that words had only darkened his course. The Chairman of the Finance Committee say, resumption, save himself in the bewilderness no opinion nor commits himself to any theory in any one section of these finances. There seemed to be entire unanimity, as they ascribe all troubles to an overdose of currency. In his judgment our currency had no more to do with the monetary derangement than the balance pole of an acrobat or a last year's bird's nest. He denied that our currency had depreciated during the panic: if our currency was dishonored now it was technically dishonored a week after its issue. Was the nation to be adjudged bankrupt because it failed to pay gold for these notes, one kind of legal tender for another? Every particle of the property of this vast country is pledged for the redemption of these notes, they are as good now as they can be made. The nation had not violated its pledge, and there was no truth in the charge of blighted faith. The real inquiry now is, is it practicable, having due regard for the rights of bill holders and the interest of the government, to return to specie payment? He thought not, and defied any one to show that the government had departed from the purest morality. When we have that prosperity and trade which all should labor for, then that grand fact of specie resumption will be accomplished. All this struggle to get back to specie payments: He had been answered, "Because it is the world's currency." He thought the world would get over some of its old notions on this subject. Nations were becoming more intimate with each other and working together more harmoniously. As this intercourse increased the world would adopt a currency not so cumbersome. He did not favor the substitution of demand notes for greenbacks. He would have but one paper currency, and that issued directly by the government. The national banks were organizations of necessity, and inquiry now was worthy of attention. If there was further need of them, a suitable time should be given to wind up their affairs. If we could not have one currency issued by the government, then he favored free banking, with the adoption of the English rule of making a stockholder liable to the extent of his means. This preference, though, was but for the currency by the government, upon which the interest should be paid, and the reception of a certain percentage on those notes by the government in payment of import duties. Further, he would change the form of a note, and instead of making it a promise to pay, would simply have the denomination stamped upon it, the same as upon gold and silver. The people of this country are active and enterprising, and need a great volume of currency, some times more than at others, especially in fall and winter, in moving crops, etc. Again, four millions of people in the South lately set free were now engaged in industrial pursuits, and thus the demand for money is increased. He therefore thought it advisable to have currency elastic, with convertible bonds at a small rate of interest—about 3 65–100. He favored a small rate because the nation was paying so much interest, both public and private. No nation had been so much impoverished as ours by the payment of extravagant interest. If we return to specie payment now we must reflect that our greenbacks will be bought up by capitalists at a depreciated value and held for a gold millenium, thus increasing the monetary derangement and crippling business. No king should be done to contract, but we should go right ahead steadily. If there is a furnace idle, encourage it to begin work, or if any mechanical agency or industry stopp-d, bid it go to work, and all will be well. In conclusion, he denied that the west of the West was for a resumption of specie payment and no expansion of the currency.

Mr. LOGAN said it is necessary to relieve the present stringency by placing the currency on a secure basis. He did not oppose an ultimate return to specie payment, but considered such a return as present impracticable and unnecessary. He argued that specie payment cannot be reached through forced contraction without bringing about a national bank. The present amount of currency is manifestly inadequate. The only way to specie payment is by further contraction or legislative proclamation. Further contraction is impracticable. The immediate result of resumption would be to cripple if not ruin every industry. The importation of gold must be greater and exportation far less before we can consider the question of coin resumption. An increase of currency would not, as has been affirmed by other Senators, injure Western farmers. The history of the last decade shows that the country has never been in such a condition of continued prosperity as during those years of paper money. He would be better that the day of specie payment should be postponed as long as it was in England at the commencement of the present century, than that this country should experience the disastrous results incident to a forced contraction.

The confidence of the people in our paper currency has never wavered. In the days of the panic gold fell to 106. The Senator from Missouri showed that the amount of our currency *per capita* in 1866 was fourteen dollars fifty cents, and that it is now nineteen dollars. The logical result goes even further. In 1860 the amount of property *per capita* was five dollars twenty-six cents, which increased to seven dollars ninety-one cents in 1870. The same ratio of increase of currency would now require twenty-two dollars *per capita*, or a total circulation of eight hundred and fifty millions. The amount of currency during that period has been increased but twenty-eight per cent., while the increase of property must been fifty-two per cent. A proper supply of currency is now needed. Taking a suitable ratio of property to currency as a standard, this amount would be about eight hundred and fifty millions. This amount is needed for active circulation, and it would not be in excess of the amount *per capita* in Great Britain and France. The most reliable statistics represent the circulation in France at fifty dollars *per capita*, and in Great Britain at twenty-five dollars *per capita*, which latter is ten per cent. more than is here demanded.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War in response to a resolution of that body in regard to the appropriation for collection and payment of bounties to colored soldiers. The latter stated that of the appropriation of $50,000, but $22,000 remain to conduct the business until June 30. The estimated expenses per month are, at the lowest limit, $5,500; therefore at the end of April the entire appropriation will have been expended, and unless some provision is made all the work will have to stop and the clerks be discharged. The Secretary recommends that the unexpired balance of appropriation for collection and payment of bounties for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, be rendered available to carry on business until June 30, 1874. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Senate went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.

Under the call of States, a large number of bills were introduced and referred:

By Mr. SPEER, for the purchase of Monticello, the homestead of Thomas Jefferson, and containing his grave.

By Mr. HUNTER, to amend the National Banking law so as to provide for free banking and give better security to depositors, prevent usury, give elasticity to the currency, and place our finances on a more secure and substantial basis.

By Mr. WELLS, to establish a branch mint at St. Louis.

Mr. PAGE offered a resolution instructing the Commissioner of Public Lands to ascertain whether lands granted by Congress to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, to aid in the construction of the railroad from Springfield, Missouri, to the Pacific Ocean, are forfeited, and whether any legislation is necessary to restore such lands to preemption and homestead entry. Adopted.

The Committee on Civil Service will report a bill reducing the Deputy Commissioners of Internal Revenue from three to two, and providing that the vacancy in the office of the First Deputy be filled by the appointment of one of the existing deputies.

Mr. WILSON, of Indiana, moved to suspend the rules and adopt the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the present monetary stringency and the insufficiency of the amount of circulating medium, the industry and commercial affairs of the country have been greatly depressed; and

WHEREAS, By reason of such stringency the revenues of the government have been largely diminished; in consequence whereof Congress has been asked to increase taxation to the amount of forty-two million dollars; and

WHEREAS, Until the recent panic the revenues were ample enough to meet the current expenses of the government; therefore

Resolved, That instead of levying taxes, the true policy lies in the enactment of such law or laws as will relieve such stringency and supply the means necessary to the business wants of the country by increasing the circulating medium, thereby relieving business and increasing revenues, and thus avoiding the necessity of increasing the present rates of taxation, or duties, or imposition of additional taxes or duties.

Resolved, That the Committee on Banking and Currency be instructed to prepare and report to the House without delay a bill for the purpose in the first resolution expressed, and that said committee have leave to report at any time.

Mr. McCRARY called for the yeas and nays.

Mr. SPEER inquired whether the question of consideration could be raised.

The SPEAKER said that that question was raised. The motion was to suspend the rules and all other rules.

Mr. DAWES remarked that the subject was before two committees at present, and had been discussed in the House last Saturday. He suggested that, instead of having a vote now the resolutions be simply introduced and set down for debate at the same time, so that the various views of members could be brought out, and that the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Banking and Currency might have the benefit of these views. The Committee on Ways and Means proposed to report something to-morrow which would be the subject of debate confined to the matter.

Mr. HOLMAN objected to discussion.

Mr. RANDALL remarked that the Committee on Banking and Currency was holding sessions every day during the sitting of the House, listening to the views of gentlemen from various parts of the country.

Mr. WILSON said that this question of increased currency was exciting a great deal of public attention, and therefore he had drawn the resolution for the express purp se of testing the sense of the House, and letting the public know whether or not there was to be an increase of currency.

Mr. COX wanted to offer an amendment.

The SPEAKER informed him that he could not do so under a motion to suspend the rules.

The vote was taken and resulted in yeas 125, nays 96. Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative the resolutions were rejected.

The SPEAKER appointed a Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice as follows: Senet, Virginia, Parsons, Williams Michigan, Speer and Bunnan.

Mr. YOUNG moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill providing that all printed matter printed by order of the government and bearing the official signature of a member of either House of Congress, shall pass through the mails free of charge until the 1st of July, 1874. The motion was rejected—yeas 71.

Mr. BUTLER offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether further legislation is necessary to prevent the illegal use of the United States flag on commercial vessels. *Adopted.*

Mr. COX presented a memorial from the National Board of Trade, to reform the complex, cumbrous and difficult customs laws of the United States, and against the system of informers' moieties and arbitrary seizures.

Mr. HOOPER, from the Committee on Coinage, reported a bill allowing coinage to be executed at United States mints for foreign countries, and sent to the Clerk's desk and had read a portion of the Chinese proclamation authorizing the circulation of the eagle and trade dollar lately coined in the United States. The bill passed.

Mr. CLAYTON asked leave to offer a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the practicability and expediency of constructing a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, or by way of Nicaragua, Tehuantepec, or any other route.

Mr. WARD introduced a bill providing that the heirs of any soldier who was killed or died while in the military service during the late war, whose period of enlistment was for less than one year, or who shall have since died by reason of wounds received or diseases contracted, shall be entitled to receive the same bounties as if the said soldier had enlisted for three years. This bill includes all who enlisted for three or nine months at the commencement of the war, and who have never received the bounty. The bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Several members objected, and the House adjourned.

FROM JAPAN.

News by the Colorado—The Diplomatic Disagreement Still Unsettled—Another Grea Fire in Yeddo and Destruction of $2,000,000 Worth of Property.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 19.—The Colorado has arrived. She brings Yokohama dates to December 23. The diplomatic disagreement between the government of Japan and certain foreign representatives continues unsettled, and has, indeed, been complicated to some extent by events not yet made public. It is still urged that the whole country should be thrown open at an early period; a proposition which the Japanese steadily refuse to entertain, unless the condition of the ex-territorial jurisdiction be abandoned. Three ministers of nations concerned in the Simonoseki indemnity, of which two million dollars remain unpaid, will press their claims if their desires are not acceded to. These are the Envoys of Holland, France and England. The United States Minister, Mr. Bingham, holds aloof from the conferences, and has even informally notified the government that he desires no part of the indemnity to be paid to him. From this it is understood to imply that while the United States will not accept their share, they are not disposed to appear to offer a rebuke to the movements of the other parties concerned. Mr. Bingham simply wishes to take no part in the proceedings, and to have none forced or him. Others are met in their stand, and it is believed that the ultimate surrender of two millions indemnity would be no fair equivalent for the opening of the country, if such approval could be purchased by money only. And secondly, that the representatives of three powers alone have not any right to negotiate for opening the empire to all, or in other words, that a money compensation offered to France, Holland, England and the United States, even if it would entitle them to admission, could not affect Germany, Italy, Russia, and the numerous other nations with which Japan has a treaty: at the same time they show the impossibility of making any discrimination in the matter. They therefore expect themselves to adhere to their demand. It is semi-officially announced that the British Minister has no wish to receive the money, but to use his claim as an instrument toward effecting the designs of Russian and French representatives, on the other hand, desire payment. Meanwhile, the amount being ready for delivery, the Japanese have taken occasion to express their regret at the whole question of ex territorial jurisdiction in a manner unusually forcible for them. Iwakura has issued circular dispatch to the Ministers, rehearsing all their own objections to the system, with illustrations of its dangers, and showing that the European governments have not a claim against it in strong terms. In the case of the other Asiatic nations, the document is thought as not declaring in positive terms that ex-territoriality, as it now exists, will not be applied to that country generally. It is understood that the express and final decision of the Japanese government is to that effect. The result of its reception by the foreign Ministers had not yet transpired, but there is little doubt that it will arise as a formidable opposition to the whole policy.

A petition is in circulation for signature by Americans asking of the United States government that the surplus of the Simonoseki indemnity fund be returned to this country upon condition of its being devoted to educational purposes.

On the night of the 9th of December a fire occurred in Yeddo, sweeping away 4,000 buildings from almost as large an area as that devastated by fire in April, 1872, and undoubtedly destroying a large amount of property, inasmuch as the area attacked was occupied by shops and residences of wealthy merchants. The exact amount of loss has not yet been ascertained, but it has been estimated at $2,000,000. Much more has been saved in comparison than at the previous conflagration, in consequence of the multiplicity of the fire-proof storehouses, for the deposit of valuables. Most of these with their contents remained unharmed. It is rumored that many lives were lost, but of this there is no confirmation. The usual energy was shown by the citizens in endeavoring to repair the ravages, and several streets are already nearly rebuilt.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 19, 1874.

THE STEAMER CITY OF PANAMA—WHY SHE DID NOT SAIL.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company state that the reason their new vessel, the City of Panama, did not sail on Saturday, was owing to her builders not having completed her outfit. No engineers, sailors or coal passers have been on board the vessel, and could not, therefore, prevent the departure of the vessel by the strike. It was not intended to take passengers on this her first trip, as the management desired to make a trial trip of her machinery before sending her to the Pacific coast.

THE SUNDAY EVENING CONCERTS.

The police did not interfere with the performances last evening in places of resort for the Germans, and the usual Sunday entertainments were given to the usual crowds. The advocates of these Sunday recreations say the churches make provision for only 293,000 of the one million population of the city, and that the other seven hundred thousand must be provided for. The Germans have for the first time to-morrow Mr. Waite was, on motion of Caleb Cushing, admitted to the bar of that court as an attorney. Senators of both parties speak well of the nomination, and there seems to be no doubt of its confirmation.

THE CASE OF GEN. HOWARD.

The House Committee on Military Affairs will hold a session to-morrow, at which the sense of the committee will be tested by a vote whether, in the matter of the charges against Gen. Howard, the committee shall proceed with the investigation, or whether they will recommend that the subject be transferred to a military court of inquiry for trial. The committee are about equally divided on these questions.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PATENT ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with the idea of the Patent Convention, which recently closed its sessions in Washington, it is proposed to establish branch associations with as little delay as possible in each State or Territory, the president of which shall be vice president ex-officio of the National Association. An effort will be made to hold an International Patent Congress in Philadelphia at the time of the Centennial.

Convention Week—The National Convention of the Cheap Transportation Association—Its Objects—Projects—The Patent Congress—A Constitution Adopted and Permanent Organization Established—The Woman's Suffrage Issue and Other Matters Discussed—The Veterans of the Mexican War in Council—An Interesting Occasion.

Special Correspondence to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19, 1874.

The national capital, as the seat of government, social or political, has had a diversity in what might be called convention week. No less than four gatherings of a more or less popular character were in session at one time and concluded their labors on saturday. Each convention, in its way, presented important interests, and in the future will take its place amongst the numerous subjects for popular consideration which have already assumed the form or degree of development. With centers of local concern, political, national, State and county, personal, business and social interests, the American popular mind is well occupied, and must certainly be made up of more substantial material than belongs to what assemble for purposes in other countries. The National Convention of the American

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

met under the call of its Executive Board in accordance with a resolution passed by the association at a meeting in New York in May, 1873. The name of the association expresses its object, and the practical results hoped for are what are termed by those of this way of thinking as abuses of the railroad system, and which it is proposed to remedy by legislation, the construction and management of railroads on the bases of cheap transportation, and if possible the construction of water routes to the seaboard.

Among the delegates were Josiah Quincy, of Boston, President of the Association; D. Ogden Kellogg, Secretary, Troy, N. Y.; E. B. Talcott, Treasurer, N. Y.; Senator Sherman, of Ohio; Stephen A. Moore, of Kankakee, Ill.; B. F. Baker, John F. Henry, W. S. Fairfield, A. W. Tenney, Theo. F. Lees, E. R. Durfee, A. Ammerman, John H. Kemp, S. J. Martin, W. H. Wiley, Simon Sterne and Jas. B. Barron, of New York city; W. C. Flagg, Moro, Ill., President of the Illinois State Farmers' Association; M. D. Wilber, of Michigan, member of the Legislature; Mrs. Julia Deveraux Hale, Mrs. Sarah Spencer, Miss Phœne Cozzens, lawyer of St. Louis, Miss Frances Ellen Burr, short hand reporter, Mrs. Caroline H. Winans, M. D., Miss Susan A. Edson, M. D., Miss Maggie Saxton, Mrs. Nettie Tu ot, Miss Isabella Jewell, Miss Lavina Dundore, Miss Carrie S. Burnham, Mrs. Matilda Joslyn Gage, Mrs. Logier and Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood.

Vice President Wilson, on every occasion, made a short speech before the convention, saying that he only took years ago he came to the conclusion that his wife, mother and daughter as much entitled to the right of suffrage as he himself.

Among the amusing incidents of the convention was an appeal for funds, by Miss Anthony, stating that they were talking at the rate of one hundred dollars a day.

She said a police officer called upon her last evening and demanded a license. She refused to pay it, and said that so long as she is president of the association she would decline to pay for the poor privilege of coming to Washington to ask for her rights. He threatened her with a fine of $250. She said, "Very well; I shall refuse to pay the fine." "Then you will be imprisoned," said the officer. "Very well; I have had a fine and imprisonment hanging over my head before, and I cannot be intimidated by any such threat."

At another stage in the proceedings, Representative Ranster was called on, and after a few words of indorsement, said that he had no speech to make, whereupon, amid cries for him to conclude, an aged interloper of the feminine gender bounced up in the audience and announced herself, squeaked out, "Well, if he hasn't a speech to make, I have," a remark which was received with shouts of laughter and applause. The old lady succeeded, however, in holding her vigorous gesticulation and effective voice in check for some people on the platform. Miss Anthony tried to quiet her, but it was of no use. The old lady continued to talk, still standing on the seat and once, elevating her voice, said, loud enough to be heard all over the hall, "If Miss Anthony did vote at Rochester, she voted illegally; if she didn't vote illegally, then she must be a man in petticoats." At this sally there was loud laughter at Miss Anthony's expense. Miss Anthony thereupon called her "my good woman," and begged her to sit down, but the garrulous old lady still rattled away. Finally Miss Anthony called upon the Hutchinson's, who came forward and gave one of their songs in characteristic style, during which the old lady remained standing on her seat with clasped hands, ready to open her batteries the moment the song ceased. So sooner had the Hutchinson's finished than she again began speaking. About this time a policeman who had been sent for, made his appearance, and gently urged the old lady to resume her seat. She told him she couldn't do it because she hadn't done all she desired to say yet. He still plead with her, but in vain, when a young man, (who is very good looking and remarkably handsome,) tripped lightly on the stage, and going up to the old lady with one of his sweetest smiles, begged her to sit down. The old lady at once came down from her perch, and Miss Cozzens taking a seat beside her, managed to keep her quiet during the remainder of the session. The audience who witnessed this little incident unanimously gave the young Professor for escort. Another old lady, a Mrs. Guthrie, also ventilated her sentiments by observing, in a cracked and feeble voice:

"I am a widow. Do you know what the mission of a widow is? It is to be an inspiration to the soul of her husband on earth! (Laughter.) Do you know who my husband was? My husband, ladies and gentlemen, was a soldier!" (Long and long-continued laughter and shouts of applause.)

Miss Anthony then introduced the Hutchinsons to her sid, when John came forward and said: "Let the audience arise and sing the Doxology with us," which they did, and the proceedings of the Anthony pronounced the convention adjourned.

THE CONVENTION OF VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR

was attended by about two hundred delegates, many of them carrying the scars of that brilliant war.

The following permanent officers were elected:

For President, Gen. J. W. Denver; Vice Presidents—Maryland, Col. J. R. Ruddach; District of Columbia, Major D. P. Lady; Michigan, Capt. Cornelius Hewlette; Iowa, J. W. Griffith; New Hampshire, T. P. Pierce; Massachusetts, Col. J. H. Black; Kentucky, Gen. W. R. Ward; United States Army, General T. G. Pitcher; Minnesota, General W. G. Gorman; California, J. E. Numan; Illinois, Capt. D. M. Payne; Alabama, J. J. Martin; Oregon and Washington Territories, Gen. Joseph Hilton; Ohio, J. M. Todd; Pennsylvania, Capt. W. B. Stanley; Missouri, Gen. Jas. Shields; Kansas, Col. E. M. Colood; Georgia, Col. John Jones; North Carolina, R. E. Caldwell; West Virginia, N. N. Hoffman; Virginia, Gen. William B. Taliaferro; Maine, Major Lady; Rhode Island, W. Mac Geehon; Mississipi, Gen. W. J. Smith; Wisconsin, Gen. A. Merideth; Indiana, Gen. Manson; Arkansas, Gen. A. Pike; Nevada, Gen. J. Gray.

Gen. George Cadwallader entered the hall at this point, and was loudly cheered and invited to the platform.

A memorial to Congress was agreed on, recounting the services of the Mexican soldiers, the great value of the land secured as the result of that war; setting forth the needs of many of the survivors, and the little that has been done for them, and praying that a pension of eight dollars per month be granted to all who served sixty days in the Mexican war; report adopted. He also reported a bill to accompany the memorial to Congress to carry out the provisions of the same.

There was much animated speaking, stirring music, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The members of the convention had a complimentary supper at the President's house. Previous to adjournment the convention elected permanent officers. For president, General George Cadwalader; same as vice president and counselor from each State and Territory, five secretaries and a treasurer.

DR B. R. K.

FIRE RECORD.

Stamping and Japanning Works Burned.

PHILIPS, N. Y., January 19.—Seavey & Co.'s stamping and japanning works, at Cambridgeport, was burned this morning. Loss, $60,000; insurance, $30,000.

Paper Mill Burned.

PHELPS, N. Y., January 19.—The Doblinski paper mill was burned last night. Loss $25,000. The proprietor perished in the flames, and a workman was badly burned.

Inducements Offered

for cash and to prompt men at the Checkered Front, 25 cents per barrel on flour, and 1 per cent on other goods if paid in ten days. See advertisement.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Mr. Waite for Chief Justice.

The Nomination Surprising, but Satisfactory.

The Forthcoming Naval Drill.

LIST OF THE FLEET.

Committee on Appropriations

Currency Question in the House

Unsatisfactory State of the Laws.

Proposed National Patent Association.

The Case of General Howard.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19, 1874.

Mr. Waite as Chief Justice.

The nomination of Mr. Waite to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, though received with considerable surprise, seems to meet with favor. It was regularly referred. The experience of the Judiciary Committee in the previous case will have the effect of making their investigation of the fitness of the new nominee very thorough.

The Forthcoming Naval Drill.

The Secretary of the Navy, in the following dispatch, designates the vessels to participate in the proposed naval drill in the Gulf of Mexico:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, January 15, 1874.

Rear Admiral Case, Key West, Florida:

The squadron will be: Colorado, Wabash, Franklin, Lancaster, Brooklyn, Canandaigua, Worcester, Alaska, Ticonderoga, Canandaigua, Shenandoah, Juniata, Ossipee, Wachusetts, Wyoming, Kansas, Saugus, Mahopac, Manhattan, Ajax, Canonicus, Wyandotte and Dictator. Besides will dispatch three tugs, the Shammut, when ready, and the Powhattan, if you want her.

GEO. M. ROBESON,
Secretary of the Navy.

The ironclad Ajax, two guns, is at Philadelphia, ready to join the fleet. The Dictator, two guns, is at New York, and will be towed to Key West by the Powhattan. The Shawmut is here, and will sail for the same destination shortly. The drill will take place north of the Dry Tortugas Islands, so as to be clear of the Gulf Stream. The commander will soon as practicable after the arrival of Commodore Parker, Chief-of-Staff, and will continue at intervals till spring.

The Committee on Appropriations

having before them certain members to examine the detailed estimates of specified departments, were engaged to-day in hearing the reports of these respective sub-committees, and they will make the appropriations in accordance with the recommendation of the sub-committees. The committee are of the opinion that the contingent fund they will reduce the appropriation at least ten millions.

The Currency Question.

The rejection by the House to-day, of Mr. Wilson's resolution for an inflation of the currency, cannot be taken as an indication of the sense of the House. The resolution was adroitly drawn, but was pressed to vote on the protest of members of the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Banking and Currency, and consequently many inflationists voted against it.

State of the Laws.

An investigation in the Executive departments of the codification of the laws of the United States, just completed by a commission appointed for that purpose, reveals the most gross errors in capacity or neglect. It appears that many of the laws are wholly changed, and convey a meaning radically different from all previous interpretations of the letter and spirit of the original statutes. In the laws relating to the War Department, for instance, the code changes the entire organization of the army. Under the statutes the Chief of Engineers of the army is required to report directly to the Secretary of the Interior in all matters relating to the public buildings and grounds, when the law of 1867 transferred the control of these matters from the Commissioner under the Interior Department to the corps of engineers, the War Department requiring the Chief to detail an officer who is known as the engineer in charge.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19, 1874.

NOMINATION OF CHIEF JUSTICE.

Mr. Morrison R. Waite, of Ohio, has been nominated for Chief Justice. The nomination was a surprise to Senators and all others about the capitol, including the justices of the court. Subsequently the Senate, in Executive session, referred the nomination to the Committee on Judiciary, who will probably to morrow report favorably upon it. The nomination recalled the fact that he acted as one of the counsel at the Geneva tribunal of arbitration, and some of the Senators were acquainted with him as an able lawyer of thirty years' standing, and although a Republican not an active partisan, and at the present time President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention. It was discovered, on looking at the Supreme Court record, that a year ago to-morrow Mr. Waite was, on motion of Caleb Cushing, admitted to the bar of that court as an attorney. Senators of both parties speak well of the nomination, and there seems to be no doubt of its confirmation.

THE CASE OF GEN. HOWARD.

The House Committee on Military Affairs will hold a session to-morrow, at which the sense of the committee will be tested by a vote whether, in the matter of the charges against Gen. Howard, the committee shall proceed with the investigation, or whether they will recommend that the subject be transferred to a military court of inquiry for trial. The committee are about equally divided on these questions.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PATENT ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with the idea of the Patent Convention, which recently closed its sessions in Washington, it is proposed to establish branch associations with as little delay as possible in each State or Territory, the president of which shall be vice president ex-officio of the National Association. An effort will be made to hold an International Patent Congress in Philadelphia at the time of the Centennial.

Convention Week—The National Convention of the Cheap Transportation Association—Its Objects—Projects—The Patent Congress—A Constitution Adopted and Permanent Organization Established—The Woman's Suffrage Issue and Other Matters Discussed—The Veterans of the Mexican War in Council—An Interesting Occasion.

Special Correspondence to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19, 1874.

The national capital, as the seat of government, social or political, has had a diversity in what might be called convention week. No less than four gatherings of a more or less popular character were in session at one time and concluded their labors on saturday. Each convention, in its way, presented important interests, and in the future will take its place amongst the numerous subjects for popular consideration which have already assumed the form or degree of development. With centers of local concern, political, national, State and county, personal, business and social interests, the American popular mind is well occupied, and must certainly be made up of more substantial material than belongs to what assemble for purposes in other countries. The National Convention of the American

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

met under the call of its Executive Board in accordance with a resolution passed by the association at a meeting in New York in May, 1873. The name of the association expresses its object, and the practical results hoped for are what are termed by those of this way of thinking as abuses of the railroad system, and which it is proposed to remedy by legislation, the construction and management of railroads on the bases of cheap transportation, and if possible the construction of water routes to the seaboard.

Among the delegates were Josiah Quincy, of Boston, President of the Association; D. Ogden Kellogg, Secretary, Troy, N. Y.; E. B. Talcott, Treasurer, N. Y.; Senator Sherman, of Ohio; Stephen A. Moore, of Kankakee, Ill.; B. F. Baker, John F. Henry, W. S. Fairfield, A. W. Tenney, Theo. F. Lees, E. R. Durfee, A. Ammerman, John H. Kemp, S. J. Martin, W. H. Wiley, Simon Sterne and Jas. B. Barron, of New York city; W. C. Flagg, Moro, Ill., President of the Illinois State Farmers' Association; M. D. Wilber, of Michigan, member of the Legislature; Mrs. Julia Deveraux Hale, Mrs. Sarah Spencer, Miss Phœne Cozzens, lawyer of St. Louis, Miss Frances Ellen Burr, short hand reporter, Mrs. Caroline H. Winans, M. D., Miss Susan A. Edson, M. D., Miss Maggie Saxton, Mrs. Nettie Tu ot, Miss Isabella Jewell, Miss Lavina Dundore, Miss Carrie S. Burnham, Mrs. Matilda Joslyn Gage, Mrs. Logier and Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood.

Vice President Wilson, on every occasion, made a short speech before the convention, saying that he only took years ago he came to the conclusion that his wife, mother and daughter as much entitled to the right of suffrage as he himself.

Among the amusing incidents of the convention was an appeal for funds, by Miss Anthony, stating that they were talking at the rate of one hundred dollars a day.

She said a police officer called upon her last evening and demanded a license. She refused to pay it, and said that so long as she is president of the association she would decline to pay for the poor privilege of coming to Washington to ask for her rights. He threatened her with a fine of $250. She said, "Very well; I shall refuse to pay the fine." "Then you will be imprisoned," said the officer. "Very well; I have had a fine and imprisonment hanging over my head before, and I cannot be intimidated by any such threat."

At another stage in the proceedings, Representative Ranster was called on, and after a few words of indorsement, said that he had no speech to make, whereupon, amid cries for him to conclude, an aged interloper of the feminine gender bounced up in the audience and announced herself, squeaked out, "Well, if he hasn't a speech to make, I have," a remark which was received with shouts of laughter and applause. The old lady succeeded, however, in holding her vigorous gesticulation and effective voice in check for some people on the platform. Miss Anthony tried to quiet her, but it was of no use. The old lady continued to talk, still standing on the seat and once, elevating her voice, said, loud enough to be heard all over the hall, "If Miss Anthony did vote at Rochester, she voted illegally; if she didn't vote illegally, then she must be a man in petticoats." At this sally there was loud laughter at Miss Anthony's expense. Miss Anthony thereupon called her "my good woman," and begged her to sit down, but the garrulous old lady still rattled away. Finally Miss Anthony called upon the Hutchinson's, who came forward and gave one of their songs in characteristic style, during which the old lady remained standing on her seat with clasped hands, ready to open her batteries the moment the song ceased. So sooner had the Hutchinson's finished than she again began speaking. About this time a policeman who had been sent for, made his appearance, and gently urged the old lady to resume her seat. She told him she couldn't do it because she hadn't done all she desired to say yet. He still plead with her, but in vain, when a young man, (who is very good looking and remarkably handsome,) tripped lightly on the stage, and going up to the old lady with one of his sweetest smiles, begged her to sit down. The old lady at once came down from her perch, and Miss Cozzens taking a seat beside her, managed to keep her quiet during the remainder of the session. The audience who witnessed this little incident unanimously gave the young Professor for escort. Another old lady, a Mrs. Guthrie, also ventilated her sentiments by observing, in a cracked and feeble voice:

"I am a widow. Do you know what the mission of a widow is? It is to be an inspiration to the soul of her husband on earth! (Laughter.) Do you know who my husband was? My husband, ladies and gentlemen, was a soldier!" (Long and long-continued laughter and shouts of applause.)

Miss Anthony then introduced the Hutchinsons to her sid, when John came forward and said: "Let the audience arise and sing the Doxology with us," which they did, and the proceedings of the Anthony pronounced the convention adjourned.

THE CONVENTION OF VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR

was attended by about two hundred delegates, many of them carrying the scars of that brilliant war.

The following permanent officers were elected:

For President, Gen. J. W. Denver; Vice Presidents—Maryland, Col. J. R. Ruddach; District of Columbia, Major D. P. Lady; Michigan, Capt. Cornelius Hewlette; Iowa, J. W. Griffith; New Hampshire, T. P. Pierce; Massachusetts, Col. J. H. Black; Kentucky, Gen. W. R. Ward; United States Army, General T. G. Pitcher; Minnesota, General W. G. Gorman; California, J. E. Numan; Illinois, Capt. D. M. Payne; Alabama, J. J. Martin; Oregon and Washington Territories, Gen. Joseph Hilton; Ohio, J. M. Todd; Pennsylvania, Capt. W. B. Stanley; Missouri, Gen. Jas. Shields; Kansas, Col. E. M. Colood; Georgia, Col. John Jones; North Carolina, R. E. Caldwell; West Virginia, N. N. Hoffman; Virginia, Gen. William B. Taliaferro; Maine, Major Lady; Rhode Island, W. Mac Geehon; Mississipi, Gen. W. J. Smith; Wisconsin, Gen. A. Merideth; Indiana, Gen. Manson; Arkansas, Gen. A. Pike; Nevada, Gen. J. Gray.

Gen. George Cadwallader entered the hall at this point, and was loudly cheered and invited to the platform.

A memorial to Congress was agreed on, recounting the services of the Mexican soldiers, the great value of the land secured as the result of that war; setting forth the needs of many of the survivors, and the little that has been done for them, and praying that a pension of eight dollars per month be granted to all who served sixty days in the Mexican war; report adopted. He also reported a bill to accompany the memorial to Congress to carry out the provisions of the same.

There was much animated speaking, stirring music, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The members of the convention had a complimentary supper at the President's house. Previous to adjournment the convention elected permanent officers. For president, General George Cadwallader; same as vice president and counselor from each State and Territory, five secretaries and a treasurer.

DR B. R. K.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

NEWSPAPER SUSPENSION—PASSPORTS ABOLISHED BETWEEN FRANCE AND ITALY.

PARI

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1874.

THE men in Congress who know that they cannot be re-elected, voted against the repeal of the Salary bill.

MR. MCCLURE informs the Democratic City Committee of Philadelphia that he will not accept from that party a nomination as the "Citizens' Constitutional" candidate for Mayor of that city.

IS THE Senate of the United States desirous of abolishing the important Committee on Education and Labor? If not, what does that body mean by appointing FLANAGAN, of Flanagan's Mills, Texas, to its chairmanship?

THE other day we alluded to the appearance of a new Italian paper, entitled "*The Journal of the Disciples of Satan*." It seems that we misapprehended the matter. It was not a new journal, but simply an edition of the New York *Sun*, translated into the mellifluous Tuscan.

THERE is a proposition before the French Assembly to limit the right of voting to men of the mature age of twenty-five years. If, however, Frenchmen generally should be debarred from the exercise of the elective franchise until they attained years of discretion, popular suffrage would be wholly unknown among them.

TIPTON, of Nebraska, voted against the repeal of the Salary law. TIPTON is a Reformer; at least, he says he is. He could not vote for GRANT, because the Republican party was so corrupt; but, like all demagogues who set up for Reformers, he could not resist the temptation to vote the largest named sum into his own pockets as salary.

A DEMOCRATIC paper published in Alabama says "the great curse of the South is that there are too many young men wearing away their lives trying to avoid work." This is as true as gospel—and none the less so because it is the veritable gospel which the COMMERCIAL has all along preached with regard to that impoverished region—the gospel of hard work.

IT IS proposed, in the New York Legislature, to make breaches of trust, felonies, and punish them as such. The idea is a good one; but so long as the institutions which suffer from these breaches of trust refuse to prosecute the guilty participants in them, it matters nothing how they are classed in the criminal law. The greater the penalty, the greater will be the aversion to inflicting it.

QUITE a number of papers, we observe, notice the withdrawal of "Col." PAT DONAN—the frantic Missouri journalistic kerosenist—from the editorial conduct of the Lexington *Caucasian*. It is a mere waste of time and space. Born a manic, in his more lucid intervals he is a driveling idiot—and deserves, as do all who are afflicted with calenture of the brain, the compassion of pitying silence.

THE cheering swash of the earliest waves of the spring trade is already beginning to be heard in our great commercial centers. New York papers note the arrival of quite a large number of buyers from the West, South and Southwest. Some of these are only surveying the field of future operations, but a fair number are purchasing freely, and transactions are becoming more and more important day by day.

THE President yesterday nominated Hon. MORRISON R. WAITE, of Ohio, for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. WAITE is an eminent member of the Toledo bar, and is at present the presiding officer of the Ohio Constitutional Convention. He is in the prime of life, being fifty-five years of age. He has never been on the bench, but is reputed to possess large judicial knowledge and culture. He was one of the counsel of the United States before the Geneva Court of Arbitration, and is in thorough sympathy with the principles of the Republican party.

WHAT a thousand pities it is that General BUTLER did not close with the seductive proposition which it is now said CALEB CUSHING made to him when, a number of years since, the latter was sent as Special Minister to China. He wanted BUTLER to accompany him and offer his services to the Emperor in stamping out the Teping rebellion, assuring him that he would be certain to win fame and fortune to his heart's content. Such as the first is, however, he has achieved in his own country: putting money in his purse, also, during the process of attainment. But then—all this greatness has been reached outside of the Celestial kingdom.

WE ARE gratified to see a Democratic contemporary, whose conclusions are generally as warped in character as they are confident in tone, quoting, approvingly, the following philosophic observation from a late letter of the British premier, GLADSTONE:

"Bishop Butler taught me, forty-five years ago, to suspend judgment on things I knew I did not often understand. Even with his aid I may often have been wrong; without him, I think I should never have been right."

RAW haste is sister to delay. The journal in question has fed on crudeness until its intelligence is more puckered than the lips of a green persimmon eater. We trust it will not lose an instant in providing itself with a complete set of the works of the distinguished author of the Analogy.

THE board for the revision of taxes in Philadelphia has, at the request of the Court of Quarter Sessions, rearranged the election divisions of that city as required by the new Constitution, which provides that the division shall consist of not over two hundred and fifty voters each. All the divisions that contained less than that number of electors were left without change, while those that contained over the prescribed number have been divided according to the discretion of the assessors of the wards. The new arrangement makes one hundred and fifty-three new divisions in addition to the three hundred and sixty-seven formerly in existence, making a total of five hundred and twenty election divisions under the new Constitution. The court will most probably confirm the arrangement thus made.

AN INVESTIGATION of the charges recently presented by the Secretary of War against General O. O. HOWARD will be entered upon by the House Committee on Military Affairs to-day. The principal charge relates to alleged misappropriation of funds belonging to the Freedmen's Bureau. It was at first proposed to try General HOWARD before a military court of inquiry, to be detailed by the President, but inasmuch as his alleged misconduct was to a large extent connected with the administration of civil affairs, it was finally decided that the case should be investigated by the proper committee of the House. It is to be hoped that the inquiry may be impartial and exhaustive; to the end that, if innocent, General HOWARD may receive the complete vindication to which he is entitled, and, if guilty, that he may meet with the punishment he will deserve.

THE Boston *Bulletin* well says that there is more danger from the attempts of individuals to inflate their business than from an inflation of the currency. It says:

A man manifests more business tact in doing a business in proportion to his means than in doing more than his means warrant. The sailor who crowds the sails upon his masts without regard to the size of his vessel, is not a wise navigator. The business man who aims to do as much business on a capital of $500,000 as his neighbor does with $1,000,000, makes a mistake. It may seem to young business men a little old fogyish to advise them to set a limit to their business; but careful observation has taught that the wisest merchants keep inside the limit of their capital.

It seemed well enough for Jay Cooke & Co. to do the immense business they did, and men praised their shrewdness; but when the danger came, and it was found that they had not taken the possibility of a storm into account in laying their plans, the praise of the country turned into the loudest condemnation of their folly.

No one can presume to say how much business a man may safely do on a certain amount of capital; but it can be laid down as a rule that he ought not to put himself in a condition where he will be dependent for his business existence upon a continuance of favorable circumstances. We do not, for several years, apprehend another financial crisis like that through which we have just passed; but so long as our national finances are in their present condition, it is possible for a combination of speculators to produce a monetary stringency at any time. No man who is doing business upon credit should put himself in a condition to be broken down when those occasions come, or to be compelled to borrow at exorbitant rates of interest in order to prevent failure.

IN YESTERDAY'S paper we gave a condensed exhibit of the total foreign imports at the port of New York for the year 1873. We now supplement the statement by the official figures of the exports, for which, as in the former instance, we are indebted to the New York *Bulletin*. This total amounted to $300,431,543, against $236,859,497 in 1872, showing an increase of $63,572,046. The specie export shows an important falling off, the shipments being $48,699,661, against $71,959,241 in 1872. The exports of produce, merchandise and specie combined, reach the unprecedented total of $349,091,204, which is $40,272,406 in excess of the total for 1872. This increase in the export [illegible] very gratifying symptom [illegible] much as it indicates an enlarged surplus of products, and therefore an increased production, or a greater home economy; an inference which is the better sustained from the fact that the growth in the exports is not confined to New York, but has occurred equally at all of our other leading ports.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCIENCE

A good deal of attention has been given on both sides of the water to a memorial lately addressed to Cardinal CULLEN by a large number of the students of the Catholic University of Ireland. It is a remarkable document. In the United States there would perhaps be nothing particularly noteworthy in the fact that the students of a college or university had become dissatisfied with the course of instruction provided for them by their superiors and had given decided expression to their dissatisfaction in a formal protest or petition. In older countries such a proceeding on the part of students is certainly unusual. We must, however, explain that many of Cardinal CULLEN'S petitioners are men of mature age, who have been for many years engaged in the practice of professions, and who by the step referred to, merely manifest their interest in the institution in which they were formerly students. But many of the signers of the paper are actual students, and that fact is less remarkable than the subject of their complaint. Having asserted the management of the college to be so bad as to endanger its very existence, they allege that the course of study is wholly defective and unadapted to the requirements and demands of the present age. The natural sciences, in particular, are affirmed to be so utterly neglected as to afford a plausible argument to those who charge the Catholic Church with being hostile to science. "No one can deny," says the memorial, "that the Irish Catholics are miserably deficient in scientific education;" a deficiency which the memorialists declare to be extremely galling to them, involving loss to them in a commercial sense, while in an intellectual sense it involves positive degradation. As regards the Catholic University, the charges made seem to be completely sustained by the details set forth in the petition. In conclusion, the memorialists declare their determination that "the scientific inferiority of Irish Catholics shall not last any longer, and that if they cannot obtain a scientific education in their own Universities, they will seek it at Trinity or the Queen's Colleges, or study it for themselves in the works of HAECKEL, DARWIN, HUXLEY, TYNDALL, and LYELL."

As we have already remarked, this paper has attracted not a little attention, and in fact it has been made the text of much discourse on the subject of Catholic education in its relation to the spirit of the age. Thus the *Nation* says of the memorialists that "they must be either very simple-minded or very ignorant Catholics if they suppose that any endowment, or any pressure from public opinion, would ever induce the Catholic hierarchy to undertake to turn out students who would make a respectable figure among scientific graduates of other Universities, or even hold their own among the common run of amateur readers of HUXLEY and DARWIN and TYNDALL. There is no excuse for any misunderstanding as regards the policy of the church on this point. She has never given the slightest encouragement or sanction to the idea which so many Protestant divines have of late years embraced, that theology is a progressive science capable of continued development in the light of newly discovered facts, and of gradual adaptation to the changing phases of our knowledge of the physical universe." Having referred to the "syllabus" and its condemnation of all the methods and opinions by which Irish Catholics or other Catholics could escape the deficiency of which they complain, the *Nation* goes on to argue that the intellectual habits required in the pursuit of science are incompatible with the spirit and teachings of the Catholic Church.

MR. BEECHER'S paper, the *Christian Union*, commenting on the same document, "ventures to predict that the Catholic University of Ireland will *not* be 'reformed' in accordance with the prayer of the protestants. Those who control the institution will see in this remonstrance," says the *Christian Union*, "only another evidence of the contamination of modern thought, and of the necessity of new safeguards against heresy."

The COMMERCIAL is not likely to be suspected of a "Romanizing tendency" or of sympathy with Popery if it suggests that the authors of all such remarks fail to do justice either to the Romanist system or those who administer it. As the *Nation* in the same article from which we have quoted remarks in defense of Cardinal CULLEN and his coadjutors in managing the Irish University, the church hardly pretends that the University is, or has ever been, an efficient or complete instrument of education. It has been chiefly used, in fact, to harass or frighten the English government into granting an endowment, or giving the Catholic bishops control of the Queen's Colleges. Hence the meager course of study prescribed cannot fairly be cited as an illustration of Papist education. Admitting, however, that it may have seemed so in the past, well known facts contradict the notion that the Catholic hierarchy are so foolish as to hope that they can in future restrict college education within the same or similar narrow limits. Indeed there can be little doubt that the students who lately addressed their memorial to Cardinal CULLEN, were emboldened to do so by the fact published about two months ago, that the Catholic hierarchy in England had resolved, with the express sanction of the Pope, to found in London a thoroughly Catholic University so complete in all its appointments and so adapted in all respects to the age as to challenge competition with Oxford and Cambridge. Monseigneur CAPEL is to be its President, and the Catholic laity of England are fully represented in its management. Among the lay directors are men so distinguished in science as Prof. ST. GEORGE MIVART and Mr. R. A. PROCTOR, both converts from Protestantism. Mr. AUBREY DE VERE, another convert, well known in literature, is also a director. Doubtless, the purpose of the founders is, in the course of study, to give science that conspicuous place to which it is entitled by its present importance.

The fancy of the *Nation* as to the incompatibility of scientific knowledge and Catholic faith seems quite unwarranted by biography. No doubt, as DE CANDOLLE has made pretty clear, Protestantism is more propitious than Popery to scientific studies, but in consideration of facts one had better be slow to adopt the conclusion that there is any science in which even a thoroughly earnest Roman Catholic may not excel. LEVERRIER, VON BENEDEN, SECCHI (the latter a priest) may possibly be ranked among those "French, Italian and German Catholic laymen" of whom the *Nation* speaks, "who go on with their investigations without caring whether the clergy like them or not." Let it be so, though we suspect that in thus speaking the great journalist begs the question in dispute. The *Nation's* description, however, does not apply to AMPERE, the illustrious chemist who was beyond doubt a hearty and even enthusiastic believer in the doctrines of the church of Rome, and it would be easy to mention other examples of the same class. While certain mental and moral habits which religious forms powerfully influence are either attracted or repelled by science, the truth is that Christianity, in any historical form, as a vital interest appeals to sentiments and instincts which science cannot touch.

CAUCUSSING.

The Democratic papers indulge in a huge outcry because the Republican members of the United States Senate went into caucus over CUSHING'S nomination. It is a degradation of politics, they say, to bring party considerations to bear in such matters as nominations to judicial offices.

The caucus in CUSHING'S case, however, was not held to determine whether he should be confirmed or not; but to discuss the man's character and bring out the real facts in his history; and the developments made in this caucus defeated CUSHING'S nomination, not by securing a resolution against his confirmation, for none such was offered or thought of, but from the mere force of the developments themselves. It was a caucus for discussion, not for decision; and as such it was justified by the peculiar circumstances of the case. Every member of the caucus was as free to vote for CUSHING'S confirmation after it as before it. CUSHING was defeated, not by the action of the caucus, but by the revelations made in it.

The same clamor has been raised in this State, because the Republican members of the Legislature met in caucus to consider the election bill offered by Mr. MCCLURE. That caucus took no action which bound the votes of any member of it on that bill; but its members very rightly reasoned in this way: The new Constitution renders necessary a new election law; whatever law is passed, the Republican party will be held responsible for, because it has a majority in both branches; it is best, therefore, that it should have a hand in framing any election law that may be passed.

This was, we think, the wisest conclusion it could reach. It was not fair to let one of the minority frame the law, and then hold the majority responsible for it. The majority concluded that, if they were to be held responsible for the work done, they should be permitted to *do* the work for which they were to be held accountable. They therefore appointed a committee to frame a complete election law, fair and impartial in its provisions, and agreed that it should in that shape be presented to the Senate; but no attempt was made to bind the members of the caucus to vote for it. They were all left perfectly free in their action, and all of the amendments made to it in the Senate, after it was offered, were made by the concurrence of those who were thus left free to vote as they pleased upon it.

The attempt, then, to treat this bill as a partisan measure, is simply ridiculous. If the members of the dominant party in the Legislature are not at liberty to consult with each other as to the initiative of the legislation for which they are held to a strict accountability, then there is no such thing as personal freedom left. Mutual responsibility necessarily implies this right of consultation; and the Republican members of the Legislature did nothing more than consult. They very properly considered that the initiative of important legislation belonged to them, and they simply took such steps as were necessary to cover their responsibility in the premises, leaving each man free to vote as he pleased after the bill came up for consideration. There was nothing partisan in such action; and if the bill framed in consequence of it is fair, impartial, as we are sure it is, and so guarded as to prevent frauds at elections, it is the merest child's play to call it a partisan measure. If such a bill is partisan, then woe to the party that arrays itself against it. The Democratic party of Pennsylvania cannot afford to go upon the record as the enemy of free and pure elections; and that is just what it will do if it persists in opposing the bill now pending in the Senate. The offense of the Republican caucus was that it took the lead, in behalf of this measure, out of opposition hands, and not in the bill that was framed in pursuance of its action; and the howling against the rule of King Caucus, in this instance, at least, has no justification but such as grows out of disappointment and chagrin over losing the lead in so important a measure.

"INDEPENDENT" POLITICIANS.

There were three men elected to the present House of Representatives in Pennsylvania as "Independent" Democrats—JOSEPHS, of Philadelphia, POTTER, of Clearfield, and WILLIAMS, of Clarion. They were called "Independent," because elected over the regular Democratic nominees, and two of them, at least, secured their election through the Republican votes they received. Yet all three of them went into Democratic caucus at the opening of the session, and have since acted uniformly with their party.

A similar history is shown in New York. Mr. MIDDLETON was elected to the Senate as an "Independent" Republican, but largely by Democratic votes; and Mr. CLARK, of Wayne, and Mr. ALVORD, of Onondaga, were likewise elected to the House as "Independents," although well known heretofore as Republicans. When they got to Albany they had to show their hands on one side or the other, and, as any one observant in such matters might naturally expect, they followed their political bias, and voted with the Republicans in the organization and on all political questions.

This is no new experience. The political history of the past is full of just such cases. The "Independent" candidate for office does not change his politics. He is still a Democrat or Republican, as the case may be; and if he succeeds in securing his election on an "Independent" dodge, he is clear-sighted enough to see that the occurrence is purely accidental, and is not likely to occur again. His future, then, is to be determined by his own action; and as he knows that his party is dominant at home, and that his future chances depend on his standing well with it, he forthwith devotes himself to the part of demonstrating that he is as good a Democrat or Republican as ever. As a general rule, the "Independent" is a bitterer partisan than the regular, because he feels that he is under suspicion and must go further than the regulars to prove his orthodoxy.

So long, therefore, as the country is divided into two political parties, just so long will "Independent" politicians, or politicians calling themselves "Independent," find it impossible to act independently. They will gravitate to their party center as certainly as matter obeys the laws of gravitation. "Independence" outside of a regular organization is practically impossible, and will remain so while men are actuated by human motives.

THE politicians who went off last year into the third party movement, under the delusion that the old parties were breaking up, and that there was to be a new deal all around, are beginning to wake up to the fact that the old parties are as firm and intact as ever, and that they must get back into their old party relations or be left out in the cold. At the late inauguration of Gov. ALLEN, at Columbus, Gen. TOM EWING, who supported the third party ticket last year, said:

"The prestige won by the Democracy in the recent elections cannot be explained away. It is now perfectly obvious that if the opposition are to triumph in 1876, it must be under the Democratic flag. Whatever may have been reasonably expected of the party last summer, after its long succession of defeats, it were folly *now* to expect it to surrender the field, when it is flushed with victory in three of the great Republican States of the North. It seems to me therefore that the obvious duty of all who have only differed from the Democracy on the question of the best means of organizing the opposition, to join us now for the struggle of 1876."

Gen. EWING is right as to the fact that the campaign of 1876 is to be fought under the old party colors; but what is to be thought of the political sagacity of those who could not see this fact as well in 1873 as in 1874? "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways."

LATEST European advices indicate that the condition of the iron market in that quarter of the world is perhaps even more depressed than in our own country, with the added discouragement that it threatens to be of much longer duration. One of the leading iron journals of Great Britain complains that exports have fallen off to an alarming extent during the year just closed, while increased values have failed to make up an immense deficiency in actual quality. It expresses fears that England's "best customers, the Americans, are lost for a long while, if not forever," and states that everywhere throughout the country the paralyzing effects of continental competition have been felt. In France, too, the scarcity of fuel continues to interfere with the prosperity of the iron-makers, and there are no indications of a favorable change in the coal market. In Belgium the production of iron is reported to be diminishing, while the markets depending on such productions are decreasing in importance. The iron industries of Austria are also declining, and those of Prussia are said to be in a like unsatisfactory condition. The dullness appears to be almost universal, but we shall emerge from the depression first.

THE Richmond (Va.) *Dispatch* would seem to be on the point of despairing of a Republic which no longer holds as a cardinal article of faith that Canaan must continue to be cursed without hindrance or stint. Referring to the coarse insults the other day heaped in debate upon a colored member of Congress by a white Representative from Virginia, that paper says: "He acted as any honorable gentleman would have acted with a just sense of what was due to himself personally and to his representative capacity." That is to say—in order properly to represent the Mother of States in the Legislative halls of the nation, a man must degrade himself below the level of the brute—for even the beasts have a finer conception of civility and courtesy than the ill-bred churl from the Old Dominion would seem to possess. No one disputes that, so far as he was personally concerned, he voided the sincere venom of his soul, but we do not at all believe the *Dispatch's* base imputation on the people in whose name it assumes to speak—notwithstanding the significant fact that men generally hate those worst whom they have wronged most.

VANCE, a Democratic member of Congress from North Carolina, the other day boasted on the floor of the House that he fought against the United States during the late war, "and would do so again on similar provocation." Perhaps it might not be amiss for Congress to inquire how far his audaciously declared intention of blackening his soul with the guilt of perjury, should opportunity woo his inclination, disqualifies this rampant rebel for the performance of the public duties he has sworn to discharge, and for his observance of the loyal obligations he has on oath vowed to fulfil.

The "Commercial."

[From the Evansville (Ind.) Journal.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL, under its present management, is one the ablest journals in the entire West. Vastly superior to any of its Pennsylvania rivals, it is not surprising that its business success is only second to that of the Philadelphia *Ledger*. The COMMERCIAL, while a stanch Republican paper, is moved by an independent spirit which may always be counted on to expose corruptions wherever they appear in local or national affairs.

[From the Warren (Ohio) Chronicle.]

The market reports of the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL are the most comprehensive of any paper in the West, while in the general news and editorial departments it is a first class paper.

THE astronomer Proctor believes there is conclusive evidence that the planet Mars is unfit to be the abode of any form of life known to us, being perpetually covered with snow and glaciers. Jupiter and Saturn likewise could not possibly harbor life in such forms as we know it, for the precisely opposite reason of their fiery heat.

HYMN FOR A LITTLE CHILD.

God make my life a little light,
Within the world to glow;
A little flame that burneth bright,
Wherever I may go.

God make my life a little flower,
That giveth joy to all,
Content to bloom in native bower,
Although its place be small.

God make my life a little song;
That comforteth the sad;
That helpeth others to be strong,
And makes the singer glad.

God make my life a little staff
Whereon the weak may rest,
That so what health and strength I have
May serve my neighbors best.

God make my life a little hymn
Of tenderness and praise;
Of faith—that never waxeth dim,
In all his wondrous ways.

—*Good Words.*

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

C. C. does not believe in the popular saying: "Never burn old letters."

Why are those Confederate archives like the future? Because one can never tell what they will bring forth.

A New York paper announces the death of the "wickedest man" in that city, and strangely enough the *Sun* is not in mourning.

The dip-theory is very prevalent in Baptist communities out West, just now.

The *World* is as immense on prophecy as it is poor on facts. Its almanac for the current year has the name of George H. Williams as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

"A headless Supreme Court would harmonize well with the present state of the Republican party."—*Boston Post.*

And a conscienceless newspaper reflects the exact moral condition of the Democracy.

The Whig party is very strong in Congress just now. There are seventy bald-headed men there.

Two hundred dozen bottles of mucilage were used by the last Congress. And yet members didn't stick to their business.

The columns of a certain Bourbon contemporary remind us of Golgotha—the place of a skull.

The St. Louis *Globe* pertinently calls the New York and Omaha double-track air line bill "the mildest-mannered subsidy that ever cut the pocket or scuttled the finances of a nation."

The religious organizations of New Jersey are making a strenuous effort to have a law passed which will prevent the running of trains in that State on Sundays.

There is organizing in New York a strong opposition to illegitimate speculating in railroad shares, and to the irregularities of bank officers and other trustees.

Harriet Beecher Stowe has written to the Boston *Pilot* a letter heartily praising Irish servant girls.

The pressure for a revision of the present system of revenue collection is constantly becoming stronger and more formidable.

Impolitic. The members of the First Kentucky Brigade, in the Confederate service, are to hold a reunion at an early date.

Oswego has it, now. A citizens' meeting was lately held there, for the purpose of consultation on the subject of the large local taxation and other economic measures.

Nothing like economy. There is an officer in Massachusetts who proudly shows a lead pencil which he has used for nine years, and yet it is little more than half gone now.

Captain Surmont, late of the Ville du Havre, is to have command of the Ville du Paris until the new steamer being built for him is finished.

Memphis is going to forget all about pestilence and panics by having a *Mardi Gras* carnival of her own on February 17th.

Seth Geen, of Rochester, N. Y., offers to send anybody in the United States or Canada a few hundred spawn of white fish or salmon trout on the receipt of fifty cents, and desires persons receiving them to publish in their local papers the results of the experiments in fish breeding.

One Mr. Lay has invented a torpedo which will lift the largest ship out of water and lay it into cordwood.

Persons who drive horses should not forget to put gutta percha on the feet of their animals during the prevalence of snow, as by its use "balling" is prevented. Melt the gutta percha in hot water, and then stuff the foot all around the inside of the shoe.

Among the foolish petitions presented to Congress on Friday were several from citizens of Illinois, asking for such an amendment of the revenue laws, by an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as will apply all surplus annual incomes exceeding $2,000 to the payment of the national debt and the support of the national government and free schools.

PERSONAL.

It turns out that Agassiz's small hand writing, "which seemed unnatural in so broad and impulsive a character," was the result of early necessity. On the backs of old letters, and on odd scraps of paper, he copied, as closely as possible, many volumes which he needed but which he could not buy.

Cornell University has courage as well as enterprise. It has made Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen, the well-known Swedish novelist, Assistant Professor of North European languages.

Some nine years ago an American young lady, Miss Lee, married the old German Prince Frederic of Holstein-Noer, who once upon a time aspired to the supreme rule of Schleswig Holstein. Her husband died a year after the marriage, and now our fair countrywoman has celebrated her engagement with the Count of Wurtemberg, one of the adjuants of the German Emperor, and there is considerable excitement in the court circles of Berlin.

Duke Ernest, of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, was not in earnest in his talk of coming to this country, after all. His chief of cabinet says that this month "his Highness is going to the Court of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, in St. Petersburg, where the wedding of her Imperial Highness the Princess Maria with his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will take place." Which is about as many titles as even a court flunkey could roll into one short sentence.

The late Mrs. Badger, of Boston, who committed suicide under an impression that she was becoming deranged, was a governess in the family of Hawthorne, and it is said that the character of *Hilda* in "Marble Faun" was drawn from her.

Tragedies? They lie all around us. Here is one: Mary Brown, a glove-maker, recently employed in a factory at Gloversville, Rensselaer county, having incurred the jealous hatred of two of her associates, was accused of stealing spools of the silk used in the manufactory, and on examination of her apartment several such spools were found. She was discharged, and her father notified to settle with the firm. The girl, protesting her innocence, took poison and died. In her dying letter to her father she says: "I am in the hands of the Lord, taken through enemies for the sake of revenge. Bury me by the side of my sister, and place a stone at my head with the simple words: 'Her sister Mary, who died of a broken heart, aged twenty.'" There is not the slightest doubt now entertained that she was, as she asserted, the victim of a malicious conspiracy.

Algeria has just lost an Arab, named Mohammed-Ben-Lakdar. He was 112 years old—he was neither the nurse nor the body servant of General Washington. That's a comfort.

Mr. Bancroft has gathered many valuable and rare historical facts during his long residence in Europe that he intends to employ in future work. This was the course pursued by Irving and by Motley, and Hawthorne did something similiar. It is one of the benefits of having literary representatives abroad.

One of the most melancholy sights in Washington is said to be the ex-Congressman, who persistently arrives at the commencement of each session, and endeavors by lobbying to defray his expenses till the final adjournment. Apparently entranced by Washington life, as Rinaldo when spell-bound by Armida, or Ulysses subdued by the cup of Circe, he haunts the vestibules of the hotels and the lobbies of the Capitol, ready to sell his "influence" in support of any bill for a small retainer or a large contingent.

Joint Stock Farming.

In the December number of *Fraser's Magazine* is a noticeable article upon the subject of farming, in which the ground is taken that hereafter large quantities of land will be tilled by joint stock companies, the shares being placed at from fifty to two hundred and fifty dollars each. The writer also declares that the buildings of such farms must be placed upon the highest point of land, so that water and manure may be conveyed over the surface by gravitation. Machinery is, among other services, to shear the sheep. A whole staff of butchers will be employed to kill and cut up bullocks and transmit the meat in pieces suitable for the London market straight to the salesman, without the intervention of a dealer. The salesman will be in the company's employ and will only sell their meat. In connection with this subject is the statement that growing wheat in England is not profitable. Almost all other products have risen greatly in price within the last quarter of a century. Not so with wheat. The importation of wheat by England in 1800 was five millions of quarters, or forty million bushels. In 1871 the importation was nearly ten million quarters. Yet the price of wheat in 1871 was lower than in 1800. It is very plain, says the writer in *Fraser*, that wheat cultivation can no longer be profitable. This view of the case is interesting to the grain-growers of the United States, as it opens to them a still wider field for the sale of their most important product. This city is now connected by rail with all the leading grain sections of the Union, and shipments can be made to the Old World with readiness and safety. As the demand for breadstuffs increase, the trade will become still more profitable, and in this manner Philadelphia will be improved and enriched.

Unhealthy Surroundings.

To breathe pure, healthful air, and to follow occupations conducive to health and long life are the privileges of the minority. The majority must dwell where ever their lot is cast, however insalubrious the locality may be, and work at the crafts assigned to them, however destructive to health and vigor. Medical science has, however, come to the aid of the latter. In HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters they have (and have had for the last twenty-five years) the best defence against the morbid influences which create and foster disease, that the vegetable kingdom can supply. Its ingredients are among the finest botanic specifics which research has yet revealed to man. As a preventive of, and remedy for the diseases generated by swamps, miasms, the foul air of factories, excessive heat, over exertion of body or mind, unwholesome water, or any other morbific cause, HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters bear away the palm from all medicines of the present day.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,251 56.

Chartered in 1862.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of SIX PER CENT. compounded from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of 20 Lines, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS:

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. F. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. R. Simonton, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Schmidlapp, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert G. Sommers, Christopher Zug, John H. Haller, Solicitor.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT OF

Birmingham Fire Ins. Co.

OF PITTSBURGH, PA.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1873

Capital Stock.....$200,000 00
Surplus.....43,136 37
Total assets.....$243,136 37

ASSETS.

Bond and Mortgages, first lien on property in Allegheny county, worth over $280,000 00.....$102,443 34
Stock Notes, subject to call, secured.....97,895 00
Cash in bank and in office.....20,304 11
Premiums in due course of collection.....13,238 80
Bills receivable and other claims.....5,700 00
Interest accrued.....3,076 45
Office Furniture.....679 97
$243,136 37

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock.....$200,000 00
Balance January 1, 1873.....10,009 01
$210,009 01

Premiums received in 1873.....$53,614 09
Interest accrued.....3,076 45
Interest received in 1873.....8,152 02
$ 64,843 56

Reinsurance, Commissions, etc.....$ 9,193 02
Losses paid in 1873.....20,383 98
Expense, Taxes, Salaries, etc.....7,279 51
$ 36,716 30

Claims on losses paid.....$ 28,127 26
5,000 00
$243,136 37

Unpaid losses.....1,513 80
Losses reasted.....6,000 00
Amount of outstanding risks.....$3,026,671 02

WM. RUSKE, Secretary.

STATEMENT OF THE

Teutonia Insurance Company,

OF ALLEGHENY, PA.,

ORGANIZED JULY 18, 1871,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1873.

CAPITAL STOCK.....$125,000 00
WITH PRIVILEGE TO INCREASE TO 200,000 00

1. ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages, first liens on Allegheny county real estate.....$ 87,300 00
Accrued Interest on same.....2,083 65
Cash in Office and Bank.....7,985 49
Stock Notes, with two approved names.....62,500 00
Outstanding Premiums.....3,164 86
$ 163,254 50

2. RECEIPTS AND BALANCES.

Premiums.....$ 29,853 81
Interest Received and Accrued.....9,113 64
Balance December 31st, 1872.....20,511 28
$ 59,176 63

3 DISBURSEMENTS.

Fire Losses.....$ 3,481 24
Commissions, Return Premiums and Reinsurance.....5,979 81
Salaries, Rent and all Other Expenses.....6,461 08
Dividend No. 1.....5,000 00
$ 20,922 13

Balance.....$ 38,254 50
Capital.....125,000 00
Assets.....163,254 50

4 LIABILITIES.

Unadjusted and Unpaid Losses.....$ 1,950 00
Outstanding Risks.....2,355,410 11

THOS. HENRY J. EGGERS, Secretary.

STATEMENT OF THE

National Insurance Company,

OF ALLEGHENY.

JANUARY 1, 1874.

Capital.....$100,000 00
Capital Paid in.....70,000 00

ASSETS.

Mortgages (first lien).....$32,952 78
Stockholders' Notes.....30,000 00
Cash in Bank and in Office.....9,222 63
Premiums in Course of Collection.....6,582 68
Interest Due and Unpaid.....1,867 00
$180,626 09

RECEIPTS.

Premiums.....$ 46,225 81
Interest.....16,613 80
Installment of Capital.....20,000 00
$ 91,636 61

DISBURSEMENTS.

Dividends.....$ 25,000 00
Losses Paid.....10,154 08
Commissions Paid to Agents.....5,718 24
Return Premiums and Reinsurance.....6,230 30
Refitting Office.....1,169 74
Advertising, Salaries, Rent and all other Expenses.....8,429 93
$ 62,733 28

LIABILITIES.

Balance on Mortgage (not yet payable).....$ 2,000 00
Loss in Process of Adjustment (total amount).....4,100 14
$ 6,100 14

Outstanding Risks.....$4,781,775 00

SETH JAS. E. STEVENSON, Secretary.

STATEMENT OF THE

German American Ins. Co.

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PITTSBURGH, December 31st, 1873.

(Commenced Business June 2, 1873).

Capital.....$100,000 00
Assets.....110,984 72

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages.....$48,300 00
Interest Accrued thereon.....606 25
Demand Notes (secured).....50,000 00
Bank Stocks.....3,502 50
Cash in Bank and Office.....6,413 66
Premium in Course of Collection.....1,575 51
Office Furniture.....447 30
$110,984 72

RECEIPTS.

Premium.....$ 9,782 78
Interest.....5,300 11
$ 15,082 89

DISBURSEMENTS.

Fire Losses.....$ 20 00
Commission, Return Premium and Re-insurance.....1,021 24
Expenses and Taxes.....3,056 93
$ 4,098 17

Capital Stock.....$ 10,984 72
100,000 00
$110,984 72

Losses Unadjusted.....780 00
Amount of Risks in Force.....$14,553 72

THOS ROBERT ABEL, Secretary.

STATEMENT OF THE

German Fire Insurance Co.,

OF PITTSBURGH, PA.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1873.

Cash Capital Subscribed.....$ 100,000 00
Amount Paid.....58,000 00

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages.....$ 233,292 18
Cash in Hand of Treasurer.....14,182 65
Premiums in Course of Collection.....7,307 51
United States 5-20 Bonds...$11,300 00
Office Fixtures.....4,451 34
Stock Due Bills.....42,000 00
Balance January 1, 1873.....$ 312,475 68
2,917,860 80

RECEIPTS.

From January 1, 1873, to January 1, 1874.
Premiums for Fire Risks.....$67,397 80
Interest.....20,286 13
$87,683 93

DISBURSEMENTS.

Fire losses.....$16,838 97
Reinsurance and return premiums.....2,256 36
Taxes and stamps.....2,267 41
Stationary, printing and commission.....7,389 94
Advertising, salaries, office rents and all other expenses.....8,226 40
$36,006 08—$ 44,717 85

Cash and stock dividend.....$336,578 65
24,000 00
$312,578 65

Cash dividend paid since 1863.....$162,000 00
Surplus on expired risks.....130,362 00

F. L. GROSS, Secretary.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF THE SOUTH SIDE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH, (South,) January 1st, 1874.

Capital Stock.....$100,000 00
Surplus.....20,339 59
$120,339 59

ASSETS.

Demand Notes on Capital Stock.....$ 30,000 00
Loans on Bonds and Mortgage.....35,119 00
Interest Accrued Thereon.....410 69
Cash in Bank and Office.....31,800 01
Premiums in Course of Collection.....7,113 34
Property of the Company.....775 95
$120,339 59

LIABILITIES.

Losses not Adjusted.....$ 1,950 00

The undersigned, Auditing Committee, report that they have examined the books and assets of this Insurance Company, and find the above statement correct.

JOHN C. BROWN,
JOHN NUSSER,
WM. D. WEST.

Rupture Trusses SEELEY'S HARD RUBBER TRUSSES for Relief, Comfort, and Cure for Hernia or Rupture. Fine Steel Spring Vulcanized Trusses free from all scour, rusty chafing, strapping or girthing. Cool, cleanly, light, safe and durable. Unsoiled by bathing. Always reliable. Beware of worthless Japanned imitations. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Establish, 1847 Obed. Seeley Pupils and 727 Body, N. Y. Complete assortment for sale by Messrs. Wm. H. Bull & Co., Allegheny City, and all dealers. 1st

DRY GOODS AT

McKEE'S,

UNTIL

February 1st,

In

A. A. McCARTY,

NO. 64 FOURTH AVENUE,

BROKER,

DEALER IN

STOCKS, BONDS, MORTGAGES,

COMMERCIAL PAPER AND MISCELLANEOUS SECURITIES.

7th

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, January 19, 1874.

The day has been so exceedingly disagreeable that everybody who can has stayed within doors, and the transactions of the day have been mostly confined to the banks. Money both in the banks and in hands of the brokers is plenty and good paper is easily sold. Paper which is not of undoubted strength is slow in moving, lenders having a wholesome recollection of the defaults during last fall.

From our foreign advices we learn that money is easy and that the Bank of England has reduced her rate of discount to 3½ per cent., and has gained largely in bullion during the week.

The bank statement as published this morning is favorable, and indicates growing ease in monetary affairs. The banks gain in legal tenders $4,491,900 and in deposits $11,673,100. As a result they now hold lawful money in excess of the twenty five per cent. required, $25,144,775—a gain over last week of $3,248,400. The loan certificates have all been cancelled.

—The report of the condition of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company, for the fiscal year to September 30, 1873, has just been made public. The capital stock, of which all is issued, is $50,000,000, and the bonded debt for 1872, $24,804,000, and for 1873, $29,095,000. The floating debt by report of 1872 was $3,903,472 42, and for 1873, $4,754,193 70, showing increase during 1873 in bonded and floating debt of $5,141,721 28. The cost of road is $62,694,703. Equipment is given at $13,238,222. The length of road is 540 miles main line, and length of double track, including sidings, 568 miles; length of branches owned by company 595 miles. The gross receipts for the year were $19,355,335 34, against $17,591,629 43 in 1872. The transportation expenses, including operating and repairs, and maintaining road were $13,487,927 08. The amount paid for interest and leases was $2,310,350. The dividend on stock $4,008,650. The balance to credit of income account is given at $936,787 23. The directors have decided not to pay the usual semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent. in February.

—The stock of the Central Pacific Railroad is attracting some attention. It has lately been put on the list and called on the New York Stock Exchange, the latest quotations being from 71½ to 72. From the official statement rendered by the committee of the Stock Exchange, it transpires that the company has all told, 1,329 miles of road and over 13,000,000 acres of land, that the gross earnings for 1871 were $9,467,072 15, for 1872, $12,734,729 88, and for the first six months of 1873, $6,325,408 49. From the company's report since we learn that the earnings for the whole past year amount to $13,938,969, of which $1,072,750 was earned during the month of December. The amount of stock outstanding is $54,755,000 and the total debt ahead of the stock is given at $54,511,-027 25. The company has declared one dividend of three per cent. gold out of the earnings of the six months preceding last September, and has felt warranted in committing itself to the policy hereafter of declaring regular three per cent. half yearly dividends, payable in gold. The road has been managed by Messrs. Fisk and Hatch in a manner worthy of their indefatigable energy.

Of their other road, the Chesapeake and Ohio, we cannot say so much, as it is strung neck and heels between two ditches, the James river on the one hand, and the Ohio on the other, with no outlet of feeders at either end, and running through a country that, for agricultural purposes, would not support a grasshopper to the acre. The road can never expect to be a success until it is built to Cincinnati and connected with the railroad system centering there.

The President of the road has issued the following report of its condition:

Length of road and branches, from Richmond, Va., to Huntington, on the Ohio river, W. Va.:

The whole length is now fully in operation, the last division having been turned over to transportation department by the chief engineer, September 1, 1873.

Authorized capital stock	$30,000,000
Amount of capital stock issued	15,852,087
Amount of capital stock unissued	14,147,912
Bonds of the Virginia Central Railroad Company, secured by mortgage on portions of the road	1,318,099
First mortgage six per cent. gold bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company, dated January 15, 1870, payable November 1, 1908, (trustees, Henry Dimcan, Philo C. Calhoun,) 5,000 for $500 each, Nos. 1 to 5,000	2,500,000
4,000 for $500 each, Nos. 5,001 to 9,000	2,000,000
12,000 for $1,000 each, Nos. 9,001 to 21,500	12,500,000
Cost of road, April 1, 1873	39,292,314

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kaufman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue.

January 19, 1874.	10 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3 o'clock P.M.
Gold	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼
Pacific Mail	40½	40¾	41	41	----	42
Adams Express	----	----	99	----	----	----
Wells, Fargo & Co.	----	----	----	----	----	----
American Express	----	----	----	----	----	----
United States Express	----	----	----	----	----	----
New York Central	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
Erie	45¾	45¾	46	46	46	46
Michigan Central	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Michigan Southern	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½
Illinois Central	127	127	127	127	127	127
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Chicago & Northwestern	60¾	60¾	60¾	60¾	60¾	60¾
Do Preferred	----	----	----	----	----	----
Rock Island	104	104	104	104	104	104¾
St. Paul	----	----	71¾	71¾	71¾	71¾
Do Preferred	----	----	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾
Wabash	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Fort Wayne	98¾	98¾	98¾	98¾	98¾	98¾
Ohio and Mississippi	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Union Pacific	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾	----	96
Canton and Alton	40	40	40	40	----	----
Harlem	124	----	125½	----	----	----

—The following are the quotations for government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. 6s 1881	116¾	116¾	116¾
1881, coupons	117¾	117¾	117¾
5-20s, 1862	115¾	115¾	115¾
5-20s, 1864	115¾	115¾	115¾
5-20s, 1865	115¾	115¾	115¾
5-20s, new	115¾	115¾	115¾
5-20s, 1867	117	117	117
5-20s, 1868	116¾	116¾	116¾
10-40s	113¾	113¾	113¾
10-40s, coupons	113¾	113¾	113¾
Currency 6s	114¾	114¾	114¾
New 5s	112¾	112¾	112¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee	79¾		81
Tennessee, new	79¾		
South Carolina, July	93½		94
Missouri 6s	92¾		93

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
MONDAY, January 19, 1874. }

REMARKS—The pleasant weather we made mention of in our last report has given way to a "driving rain," accompanied with a "ground thaw." At the present writing the streets are in a wretched condition, and should the present weather continue will hourly grow worse until the bottom is touched.

It is the general belief of those well posted in such matters, that the present ice embargo will run out, and that ere many hours there will be an unobstructed river navigation to all ports above and below.

As before stated, the railroads are just now overtaxed, and find it extremely difficult to send forward promptly all the freight offered upon them. The opening of navigation will relieve the roads of a portion of their burden, and thus cause things to move along in their accustomed regular and natural channels.

It is agreed on all hands that the money market is growing daily easier. The only cloud upon the monetary horizon comes from Washington where there seems to be a want of unity as to the best course to pursue to relieve the wants of trade. Until some decisive action is taken there the business community must remain in a state of doubt and uncertainty as to the future.

We have little new or interesting to give the reader with regard to our markets. There has been an advance of ½c per lb on breakfast bacon.

The receipts of grain at the elevator are largely in the increase, and dealers in flour, in view of this fact, coupled with increased receipts, do not, at present, count upon an advance.

The following table shows the arrivals of leading articles for the past twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls	1,695	Cheese, txs	20
Corn, sks	369	Cheese, sks	249
Barley, sks	671	Rye, sks	592
Oats, sks	1,000	Salt, brls	44
Bacon, pieces	5,000	Potatoes, bush	1,050

The following are the wholesale prices for the articles quoted unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—$2 00, $3 00@4 50 ₩ bbl, as to quality and condition.

APPLE BUTTER—Market quiet at unchanged prices. Sales at 6c@7c ₩ gallon.

ASHES—We are reported sales of the following figures: Soda ash, common, 3¾@4c; refined, 5c; pearl, 9c; pearl, tce; arsenic, 5c; black lead, 5c.

ALES—X $6 00 ₩ bbl; XX $9 00; India ale, $10 ₩ bbl; Bass' English ale, in gilderkins of 32 gals, $22 70 gilt 34 gals; bass, 41 gals, $42 25@44; bass, 63 gals, $62 50@65 00; in cases, 4 doz bottles, $20 75; Younger's India pale ale, in cases of 4 doz bottles, $14 ₩ doz; Robert Younger and sons, in cases of 4 doz Guinness' stouts, bottled by E. & A. Burke, $3 ₩ doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 ₩ doz; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₩ doz.

BUTTER—Choice roll sells at 25@31c; solid packed 22@30c; inferior 15@18c ₩ lb.

BEANS—White navy beans at $2 00@2 25 ₩ bushel.

BORAX—Market quiet and prices unchanged at 12c ₩ lb.

BROOM CORN—Sales red and red topped 5¾@6½c; fair to good green 5¾@6c; hurl, 3c@3½c ₩ lb.

BROOMS—No. 2, $1 ₩ doz; No 8, $1 50 ₩ doz; No 4, $1 ₩ dozen; No 3, $2 25 ₩ dozen; warehouse, $4 ₩ dozen; toy brooms and whisps, $1 50@2 00. In a jobbing way, from store, 25 to $1 50 ₩ dozen additional.

BREEWAX—We are reported a fair market with sales at 25c@28c ₩ lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Hams, extra sugar cured, 12½c; shoulders, extra sugar cured, 9 ₩ lb; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 12½; dried beef, extra sugar cured 9 ₩ lb, 10c; beef tongues, extra sugar cured per doz, $1 60; bacon shoulders, 9 ₩ lb; sugar cured hams, 14@16c; bacon sides, 12½@13c; bacon clear sides, 9 ₩ lb, 9½c; boneless hams, 10c ₩ lb; mess pork, $20 ₩ bbl, $14 75; lard, prime leaf, in tierces, 9 ₩ lb, 10½c; ₩ bbl, $14 75; lard, prime leaf, in barrels, 10½c; prime leaf do in half barrels, 11c; prime leaf do in tubs, 11c; prime do in buckets, 11 ₩ lb, 11½c; refined do for summer use, in tierces, 9 ₩ lb, 10½c; refined do for summer use, in half barrels, 10½c ₩ lb; refined do for summer use, in buckets, 11¼c ₩ lb; lard, refined, in 3 lb caddies, in buckets, 11¼c ₩ lb; refined do in 5 lb caddies, 9 lb, 11½c; 10 lb, 10c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 13c; refined do in 5 lb pails, 12½c; ham sausage, 10c.

BAKERS' BAKING POWDER—Sales: per doz, $ ₩ doz; quail, $1 50; 1 lb do $2 00; 5 lb cans $7 00; 10 lb do $13 50; 25 lb cans $31 ₩ dozen.

CHEESE—We quote as follows: Prime Ohio Factory to the trade, Young American 13c; Nutmeg 17c; prime to choice Ohio Switzer 16@18c.

CARBON OIL—[G lb, at works, 11½c ₩ gallon, with the usual advance on small lots from stores

CRANBERRIES—$10 to $12 per bbl; $3 50 to $4 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $7 50@8 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL—Sales at $30 ₩ ton for unbolted meal, and in a small way at $1 60 ₩ cwt., from store.

CRACKERS—Lemon biscuit 8½c; ginger snaps, 10c; oyster crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9½c; butter crackers 7c; water do 7½c ₩ lb.

CEMENT—Beeson's Phœnix $2 00@1 50; Louisville $2 25@2 50; Rosedale $4 00@4 50; white lime $2 00; calcined plaster $4 50; land plaster $3 00@3 50.

CANNED GOODS—Sales at the following figures: Winslow's Corn $2 95@3. Tomatoes, $2 25@ 35. Peaches, 2 lb cans, $2 25@3 35.

DRIED FRUIT—We quote apples at 8½@9c. Peaches, halves, evaporating and sundrying; quoted at 12@13c; peeled 18@20c; blackberries 14@15c.

DISEASED HOGS—Sales are reported at at 6, 6¼@ 6¾c ₩ lb.

EGGS—Supply is in excess of the demand with 33 09 c lot of strictly fresh made at 26c ₩ doz; packed 15@20c.

FISH—No. 1 extra mess mackral $35; No. 1 mess do, $28; extra No. 1 shore mackral, $26; No. 1 shore mackrel, $22; extra No. 1 bay mackrel, $19; No. 1 bay mackrel, $17; extra No. 2 shore mackrel, $17; No. 2 bay mackrel, $14; large No. 3 mackrel, $12 50; No. 3 mackrel, $10; split Labrador herring, $5 50 ₩ bbl; white fish, $7 50@8 00; lake trout, $7 00@7 50; large Georges codfish, $7@7 50 ₩ 100; medium Georges codfish, $6 50 ₩ 100; red herring, scales, 500 ₩ box; No. 1 3c ₩ box.

FEATHERS—No 1, 78@80c ₩ lb; No 2 C, 40@73c, as to quality and quantity.

FLOUR—Sales at the following quotations: St. Louis, $9 25@9 50; Kentucky white wheat, $8 50; Ohio and Indiana, $8 00; Minnesota, $7 50; Wisconsin, $7 00; Rye flour, $5 50.

GROCERIES—The following are the figures at which sales are made:

Coffee—Green coffee—Choice 32c; prime 32c; good 30@31c; fair 29@30c; Java 40c. Roasted coffee—In packages, 26c; in bulk, 24@25c; Java 40c.

Tea—Young Hyson 80c@1 10 ₩ lb; Gunpowder 50c@1 25; Imperial 50c@1 00 ₩ lb; Japan 50c@1 50 ₩ lb; Oolong 35@85c ₩ lb; fancy $1 00 ₩ lb; Souchon 25@85c ₩ lb.

Sugars—Standard Ex C 10½c; Standard B 10¼c; Standard A 10¾c; standard hards 11¾c.

Molasses—Choice New Orleans 70c; prime 68@70c.

Syrups—Extra White Drips 70c; Sugar Drips, 62c; Amber 60@65c; lower grades 55@60c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Carolina 9c; Patna 8@8¼c; Rangoon 7¾c.

GRAIN—We have no change to note, in prices, and quote red winter at at $1 60@1 65, and white $1 70@1 75. Oats—are held firmly at 83@85c for prime white; mixed 49@50c. Corn—is held at 55@58c for prime yellow, shelled; mixed 52c; old car 75c; new 70@72. Rye is scarce and held at 90@95c; HONEY—Choice clover, 400 per lb; buckwheat 30@33c.

HOMINY—Sales are reported at at $4 50@5 25 ₩ bbl.

HORSE—We are reported sales as follows: 1873's, 48@50c ₩ lb; 1870's, 25@40c; 1871's, 15@19c.

HAY—Sales baled on wharf at $18@24; wagon, $20@25. Straw $14 per ton.

LARD OIL—Winter strained 80c ₩ gallon; fall 73c.

ONIONS—Sales in a regular way $5 00@7 00 per bbl.

PARS—$1 65@1 75 ₩ bushel.

POULTRY—Dressed chickens 10@13c ₩ lb; turkeys 14@16c ₩ lb.

POTATOES—Prime peachblows held at $1 10@1 12 ₩ bushel by car load, and $1 20@1 25 from store. Sweets—Baltimore at $4 50@5 00 ₩ bbl; Jerseys $5 25@6 75 ₩ bbl.

SALT—By the car load $1 60 ₩ bbl; in a jobbing way $1 80 ₩ bbl.

RAGS—2½@3c ₩ lb, as to quality.

SEEDS—Timothy $3 00@3 20 ₩ bushel; clover $5 ₩ bushel; flax seed $1 85@1 90 ₩ bushel.

WHISKY—Highwines $1 06@1 07 ₩ gallon.

WOOL—Quoted 52@62 00 ₩ doz; rabbits $1 50@ 2 00 ₩ doz; venison, saddles ₩ lb 15c, whole deer 7@10c; quail $1 50@1 75 ₩ dozen; partridges $3 00@3 50 ₩ doz; prairie chickens $3 50@4 00 ₩ doz; wild turkeys $1 00@2 00 each; turkeys 12@13c ₩ lb; chickens 10@12½c ₩ lb.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, }
TUESDAY, January 20, 1874. }

REMARKS—The oil market yesterday was entirely devoid of animation. This may in a measure be ascribed to the unfavorable condition of the weather, the rain that commenced early in the day continued and out door transactions was consequently neglected. Below will be found all the information that was attainable.

CRUDE.

The market was quiet and at prices that were current on Saturday. The following are the asking rates at

PARKERS.

Union, spot	$1 20@1 25
United, spot	1 10@1 15
The following sales were made at the wells:	
1,000 bbls United	88
1,000 bbls Union	90

The market has undergone no change. The rates in Clarion were 11½c.

Philadelphia quiet 13¼c; February, 13¾c; March 14¼@14¾c; April, 14¾@14¾c.

New York firm 13¾@13¾c; high test 14¾c; cases 18¾@19c.

TITUSVILLE, January 19.—The "Courier" says: The Market was quiet, closing on upper road at $1 30@1 32½. No particular change to note in the market. Closed firm, with very little doing. Sales:

1,000 bbls, upper road, spot	$1 32½
500 bbls, upper road, spot	1 30
500 bbls, upper road, spot	1 30
1,000 bbls, upper road, spot	1 32½
1,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells	90
1,000 bbls, Parkers, Union	90

NEW YORK, January 19—Closing 11th.—Market firm. Crude in bulk 12½c; refined 13¾c; sales 1,500 bbls at 13¾c; 2,200 13¾c; 3,500, high test 14¾c; cases 18¾@19c; sales 1,000 bbls at 19¾c. Philadelphia quiet; refined 13¾c.

OIL CITY, January 19—Market quiet at $1 25. PETROLEUM CENTER, January 19.—Market steady and firm at $1 20.

HUMPHREYVILLE, January 19.—Market firm at $1 25.

TITUSVILLE, January 19.—Market very quiet at $1 20@1 32½.

PARKERS, January 19.—Market quiet at $1 10@1 20.

PHILADELPHIA, January 19.—Market quiet; spot sales 2,000 4,½ cases 19c; sales none; future: February 13¾c; March 14¾@14¾c; April 14¾@14¾c.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Joe Bushnell	Standard O W	104
Joe Bushnell	Standard O W	110
Fisher Bros	Riverside O W	220
Stevenson	Radiant O W	466
Fisher Bros	Penn O W	461
Joe Bushnell	National O W	946
Joe Bushnell	Model O W	153
Joe Bushnell	Keystone O W	638
Joe Bushnell	Keystone O W	234
Stevenson	Eagle O W	155
Stevenson	Eagle O W	216
Lockhart & Frew	Brilliant O W	1,151
Owner	American O W	350

Crude Oil Received by Rail and River.

	Bbls.		Bbls.
Standard O W	814	Model O W	153
Riverside O W	226	Keystone O W	775
Radiant O W	466	Eagle O W	371
Penn O W	461	Brilliant O W	1,151
National O W	946	American O W	350
By river	37,000		
Total			39,712

*15,000 barrels of this shipment went direct to Parkersburg, the remaining 12,000 bbls being gauged and sold in this market.

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
MONDAY, January 19, 1874. }

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle by the various railroads centering at the Allegheny yards were forty cars, or some nine hundred head, by far the largest run by rail we have had for some time. Of these, nineteen cars were from Chicago and the balance from Ohio and Indiana. Of the stock from Chicago some three or four loads were stock cattle, and were not offered in this market, being driven to Washington county by Mr. E. T. Vanvoorhis.

In addition to the receipts by rail, there were small droves driven in from the surrounding country, making in all in the neighborhood of eleven hundred as the total of offerings. The quality of the cattle, as a general thing, were the medium and lower grades, although a few that several droves of really good cattle were on sale.

The market opened at seven o'clock dull, amid a drizzling rain, and continued so until the close.

Butchers are the anxiety of drovers to sell many of whom sold at cost, early in the morning in order to avoid what all of them anticipated a bad market. However, butchers were evidently not anxious to purchase soon, as the market dragged along to one o'clock, closing dull and dragged. Early in the day a few prime cattle sold to parties who buy when they find what suits, at what was considered about last week's figures, but this did not last long as before ten o'clock prices were off 25c and by noon 50c on all grades and kinds from last week's figures. Some of the drovers after seeing the large number of cattle here, did not put their on sale and we think that at least ten cars were driven to East Liberty for wholesale. On the whole, the market was a very unsatisfactory one, and we heard considerable complaint from the drovers regarding it Trade closed bad at about the following figures:

Extra	1,400 to 1,500	lb steers, fine and smooth,	$6 50 to $6 75	
prime	1,300	lb steers, fine and smooth,	$6 00 to $6 25	
prime	1,100	lb, $5 00 to $5 50; fair	1,000	lb, $4 50 to $4 75; prime
	1,100	lb, $5 00 to $5 50; fair	1,000	lb, $4 50 to $4 75; prime
	1,300	lb, $5 00 to $5 50; fair	1,000	lb, $4 50 to $4 75; prime
	1,200

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Tuesday, January 20, 1874

CITY MATTERS.

Not a Candidate.

Major A. M. Brown, whose name has been put forward as a candidate for the Mayoralty, declines the honor. Mr. Brown disclaims any aspirations in that direction.

Will Filed.

The will of John Schuck, of Allentown, was filed for probate in the office of Register Gray yesterday. He bequeaths everything he possessed to his wife Margaret, so long as she remains a widow. The estate is to go to the children in case the wife marries again. John Schuck and Margaret is named as executors.

Grier Coming.

There have been so many promises of the reappearance of the missing cashier of the Allegheny Trust Company, that all stories relating thereto are received with little credit. We are informed, however, that it is his intention to appear soon, whether the reward offered for his arrest is publicly withdrawn or not. All he asks, we are told, is to have an opportunity to reach the office of the District Attorney or Alderman McMasters, without molestation by the police. It is altogether likely that he can accomplish this.

Accidental Shooting.

Charles Bingler, son of John R. Bingler, Esq., of Hazelwood, was accidental shot on Sunday through the hand, and in the leg near the knee, by the premature discharge of a pistol. The weapon belonged to a small boy named David Thomas, and was being handled by him when it was accidentally discharged, with the result stated. The injured lad was carried home, and Dr. Evans called to attend him. At last accounts the ball had not been extracted.

The Arsenal Bank.

The stockholders of the Arsenal Bank held an election, yesterday, for directors for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were chosen: John W. Riddell, C. F. Klopfer, S. J. Wainwright, John B. Cochran, Samuel McKinley, William Bantersmith, Geo. W. Schmidt, Joseph G. Wainwright, James W. Campbell, Henry Phipps, Jr., C. C. Arensberg, William Woolslayer. During the meeting a handsome collation was spread out for the friends of the bank and those interested in it, and all enjoyed themselves satisfactorily.

Board of Charities.

The State Board of Public Charities of Pennsylvania arrived in Pittsburgh yesterday morning on an official visit of inspection of our public institutions. The Commissioners are Hon. Messrs. G. Dawson Coleman, Mr. Bullock, Francis Wells and William Bakewell. They are accompanied by Hon. Thomas J. Bigham, Commissioner of the Bureau of Statistics, and Hon. S. J. Cross, of Beaver, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House. The Board yesterday visited Dixmont and the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, and to-day went visit Claremont, the Reform School, and probably other institutions.

Carpenter Work at the Court House.

A meeting was held at the County Controller's office yesterday for the purpose of opening bids for making and altering wooden cases in Prothonotary's office. *Present*: Commissioners Beckert and Stuckrath and Comptroller Warner. The following proposals were opened: Conrad Byerly, $400 00; W. F. Casey' $373 00; R. M. Evans, $315 00; Jno. G. Dunn, $280 00; E. P. Dinkle, $275 00; Heath & Sons, $205 00; Samuel Hastings, $250 00; Wm. Kerr, $200 00; Keddie & Laird, $220 00; Cook & Sterling, $240 00; M. H. Wiley, $190 00. M. H. Wiley being the lowest bidder, the contract was awarded to him.

Bankers and Bank Clerks Mutual Benefit Association

A regular meeting of the Association was held last evening in the directors room of the Mercantile Library Association, President W. N. Riddle in the chair.

In the absence of the Secretary, L. Halsey Williams was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

The resignation of C. B. McVay, Esq., as Vice President was received, and on motion of Cashier S. George, of the Farmers' Deposit National bank, was accepted, with expressions of regret at the necessity of the withdrawal of Mr. McVay, made so by his intention to take up his residence in Tennessee.

The offer of the Mercantile Library to allow the Association the use of the directors room for their business meetings was accepted.

The applications for membership of the following named gentlemen were approved:

D. W. South, Thos. H. Given, Thos. L. Moore, Oliver C. Bascom, H. P. Meeker, George Senft, Henry Rosenberg, James B. Beale, Thos. S. Gordon, Joseph Irvin, Thomas H. Marchand, B. I. McClure, John Clark, A. J. Slick, C. B. McLean, C. G. Milnor, Wm. Wm. Wilkerow and Alfred H. Logan, honorary members.

Eight new applications were received and referred to the proper committee.

The meeting was enthusiastic, and evinced a determination to make the association in every way a success.

Mortuary Reports.

We give below the mortuary reports for the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, for the week ending, Saturday, 17th inst.

PITTSBURGH.

Dr. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, reports that during the week there were seventy-eight deaths. Of this number, 40 were males, 38 females, 75 white and 3 colored. The causes of death were the following:

Pneumonia, 9; scarlet fever, 8; consumption, 6; bronchitis, 9; typhoid fever, 4; convulsions, croup, burning and old age, each 3; accident, meningitis, heart disease, each 2; drowning, atelectasis, cancer of stomach, cancer of brain, cholera morbus, cerebro-spinal sclerosis, cerebro-spinal meningitis, debility, diarrhœa, erysipelas, remittant fever, gastro enteritis, inanition, congestion of lungs, acute meningitis, meto-peritonitis, premature birth, pleuro-pneumonia, peritonitis, congenital syphilis, unknown, uterine hemmorrage, ulceration of stomach, each one. Of the above, there were: Under 1 year, 17; from 1 to 2 years, 9; 2 to 5, 10; 5 to 10, 5; 15 to 20, 2; 20 to 30, 13; 30 to 40, 5; 40 to 50, 2; 50 to 60, 7; 60 to 70, 6; 70 to 80, 1; 80 to 90, 1.

ALLEGHENY.

Health officer Hoch reports twenty-nine deaths in Allegheny from causes as follows: Still born, 4; congestion of the brain, 1; pulmonary consumption, 1; pneumonia, 4; dropsy, 2; consumption, 2; tetanus, 1; abscess on bowels, 1; whooping cough, 2; heart disease, 1; diphtheria, 1; catarrh, 1; tuberculosis, 1; senility, 1; bronchitis, 2; cystitis, 1; scarlet fever, 1; spina bifida, 1.

The ages were as follows: under one year, 7; from one to five, 5; from five to ten, 1; from ten to twenty, 1; from twenty to thirty, 1; from thirty to forty, 3; from forty to fifty, 3; from sixty to seventy, 1; from seventy to eighty, 4; from eighty to ninety, 1; males, 19; females, 10, white, 27; colored, 2.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

At six o'clock, last evening, the weather was the reverse of comfortable, considered from the standpoint of people who had made up their minds to visit places of amusement, as it was raining, with the appearances favoring a continuance for some hours. Notwithstanding this serious drawback, there was a very large audience at the Opera House, to witness a greeting to Miss Maggie Mitchell, the aforetime favorite and always welcome visitor, who was announced to make her first appearance this season.

Miss Mitchell seems gifted with perennial youth, for, to all appearance, she is as young and full of vitality now, as we remember her to have been ever so many years ago. Despite the fact that she left Cleveland on Sunday night, in the "caboose" of a freight train, and rode until eleven o'clock, yesterday forenoon, in order to be here at rehearsal—spending nearly all the time from then until the hour for dressing for the stage in drilling the company—she played the part of "Marie" in the "Pearl of Savoy," last night, with old-time vim, showing no sign of fatigue.

The personation of "Marie" by Miss Mitchell is an excellent one—well conceived and evenly sustained throughout. The "Lonstalot" of Mr. Harold Forsberg was quite good, as, indeed, has been the case with every part yet essayed here by this rising young actor. Mr. Stedman is a painstaking actor, always giving satisfaction to the audience. Of the remainder of the cast, it may be said that all did well, the drama passing off smoothly and satisfactorily, even though it were "first night." Miss Mitchell was honored with a call before the curtain at the close of the acts. She will appear again this evening as "Marie."

Trimble's Varieties.

There was a large attendance at the great Penn avenue Varieties Theater, last evening, to see the recently arrived artists. The entertainment was marked by many excellencies. Ward's feat on the rope, "Through the Clouds," was wonderfully daring. Miss Maude Gray's classic vive views, in her beautiful statues, received the heartiest applause. The mock-drama of "Union Jack" had a hearty reception from the boys. The performance to-night will be fully as good.

THE APPEAL OF THE DESTITUTE.

Public Meeting called by the Mayor.

The special committee of our city councils to which was referred the petition of destitute working men read in councils at last meeting assembled yesterday afternoon at the City Clerks office. There were present Messrs. Laufman, Glass and Ihmsen.

Members of the International society were heard from and the committee upon consultation and inquiry concluded that there was no law under which councils could appropriate money for relief. They decided to communicate with the Mayor and request him to call a citizens meeting to take action in the matter.

In accordance with their instructions, Clerk Morrow drew up a letter to the Mayor, and it was at once placed in his hands. In response the Mayor has issued the following

CALL FOR A PUBLIC MEETING.

OFFICE OF MAYOR OF PITTSBURGH, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 19, 1874.

In compliance with the request of a special committee of City Councils, having in charge a memorial from destitute workingmen of the city, the citizens of Pittsburgh are invited to assemble in City Hall, Market street, Thursday, January 22d inst., at 7 P. M., to take such measures as may be deemed necessary for affording relief to the large number of workingmen in our midst out of employment and in the circumstances.

JAMES BLACKMORE, *Mayor.*

THE WATER COMMISSION BOOKS.

Hearing in the Case of McCarthy vs. Kennedy and Ross—The Defendants Held for Court.

Before Alderman Shore, yesterday, a hearing was had in the case of Councilman Wm. C. McCarthy against Mr. Wm. H. Kennedy, Civil Engineer of the new Water Works, and Mr. John Ross, ex-Secretary of the late Water Commission, charged with the larceny of a valuable book, the property of the city of Pittsburgh. M. Swartzwelder, Esq., appeared for the prosecutor, and Jacob F. Slagle and A. Adams, Esq., for the defendants.

There was quite a number of persons present at the hearing, in fact the office of the Alderman was over-crowded.

Mr. Adams asked a continuance of the case for Mr. Ross in consequence of the illness of Messrs. Swoope and Marshall, his counsel. Mr. Slagle said he was ready, and Mr. Swartzwelder stated that he thought undue importance was given to a simple larceny case.

The Alderman decided to proceed with the case, all the witnesses being present, and, in substance, the following testimony was elicited for the prosecution.

EVIDENCE OF THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. C. Siebert testified that he was a bookkeeper and had been employed by the Water Commission. He entered upon his work there on the 17th of December. The book alleged to have been stolen shown witness). Have seen this book; it belongs to the Water Commission and was in my possession; missed it on the 20th of December; thought on that day that I saw Mr. Ross with it under his arm; asked him regarding it afterward, and he said it was a private book that he had taken; witness let Mr. Ross do as he pleased there, having no particular authority; Mr. Ross assisted witness; understood that he was there to give information. On cross-examination, witness testified that he had not particularly examined the book, but noticed that it contained a cash account; Mr. Ross, the next day after he took the book, acknowledged it; this was the only book that could have been taken.

Mr. R. B. Hunter, member of the Water Committee, testified that Mr. Kennedy was directed by Mr. Lloyd, chairman, to turn over certain papers, keys, &c., and that Mr. Kennedy did turn over keys and papers.

Mr. Duff, Secretary of the new water works extension, on examination produced a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the committee January 3, 1874, which instructed W. H. Kennedy, Civil Engineer, to hand over all books, papers, keys, &c., belonging to the Water Commission, and its secretary, Mr. Lloyd, notified Mr. Kennedy, and the latter answering, "Very well," went to his room and brought in some books, &c., laid them on the table and said that was all he had except private estimates. In response to request of Mr. Chalmers, Mr. Kennedy handed over keys. Mr. Lloyd's demand was made January 3d. The book was shown witness and he stated that he had first seen when it taken out of Mr. Kennedy's desk; it then passed into witness's possession; one account is a petty cash, the rest bonds sold, carried interest, etc.; there is *nothing in it to show* it to be the private property of anybody; the book was found after Mr. Kennedy's arrest.

Officer Cupples testified that, with Messrs. McCarthy, Duff and Siebert, he went to search for the book in Mr. Kennedy's desk; this on Saturday night three weeks ago; did not find the book (book shown); never saw this book before; got about a dozen keys from Kennedy; was positive Duff was along, but not certain as to others. Mr. Scott, twenty minutes afterwards, with Mr. Chalmers, made the second search.

Mr. J. R. Patterson testified that he has been engaged on the books of the late Commission since the 15th of December; (book produced) have found this book useful to me in my work of fixing up the books of the Commission; the books have been excellently kept by Mr. Ross; can't say that this book is indispensible.

Officer Scott testified that he had searched for the book the same night of the first arrest; Cupples gave him the keys. This was between seven and eight o'clock Saturday evening; on Monday accompanied Ross, at his own request, to the room; he said the book could be found in the table drawer; he said he had put it there.

The prosecution here rested, when Mr. Slagle said if the Alderman thought necessary the defense would produce witnesses. He, the speaker, did not think a *prima facia* case had been made out.

Mr. Swartzwelder said that this was only a preliminary examination, and it was only necessary to show "probable cause" to ensure the holding of the defendants.

The magistrate thought that some explanation of matters should be made, and, consequently, the defense proceeded to call witnesses.

TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE.

H. M. Rolfe testified that he had been a member of the Water Commission for a year or more until Kennedy's resignation, from the 24th of November, 1873, had meetings almost daily; Mr. Ross was secretary to that time; after he was discharged I was appointed secretary *pro tem.*; he, Ross, was there nearly every day; the Commission authorized him to post or close up the books, for the reason that it would take a stranger much longer than him; we expected to make a report at the end of the year; Mr. Kennedy occupied one room and Mr. Ross another; we talked of change; we met at Mr. Kennedy's room, and I wrote my minutes on Mr. Kennedy's desk; Mr. Finnie was elected and staid two days; we hired Mr. Seibert, book-keeper; the books were generally kept in the safe, but when in use were in either room; the safe was not moved up stairs when the office was removed; have seen this book (the book in dispute shown); don't know that we ever had use for it; don't think it of any account; I suppose these accounts to be transferred to the regular books.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Mr. Rolfe speak to your knowledge, not of suppositions.

Mr. Rolfe—Well, *I don't think* we ever had any use for this book; I never noticed this.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Did the Water Commission ever examine any books particularly? [Laughter.]

Mr. Rolfe—Yes, sir, they did.

Robert Watson sworn—Was a member of the Commission; the writing was generally done on Kennedy's desk when we were meeting; I have seen this book in Kennedy's desk, in different drawers; we occupied the two rooms indiscriminately.

To Mr. Swartzwelder—I didn't know anything of the notice to Kennedy and Ross to hand over all books, &c., to the Water Committee.

To Mr. Slagle—Ross was authorized to settle up the book; Mr. Kennedy kept a key of Ross' desk.

Mr. Rolfe recalled—There were two keys to Ross' desk, and when he was discharged he (Ross) gave me his and I gave it to Mr. Seibert; I think Mr. Kennedy had one of the keys; when I left the office I left the books in Mr. Kennedy's care, knowing that he had a key, not of the safe but of the desks.

Mr. Slagle here recalled the case and addressed the magistrate, and was followed by Mr. Swartzwelder.

The defendants were held for trial in the sum of $1,000 each, and Mr. Frank Ardary became security.

OUR STREETS.

Organization of the Committee—Appropriation of $140,000 Asked.

The Street Committee of our City Councils met yesterday and organized for 1874, by the unanimous election of Samuel P. Fulton, Esq., as chairman. The evening of the second day of each month was fixed as the time for the regular meetings.

On motion Messrs. West, Andrews, McClury, Eltemeller and Robinson were appointed a committee to confer with Wharton Bros. relative to the grade of South Twenty-fifth street, near their mill.

Wm. Rafferty called up the petition for the straightening of Chatham street from Webster avenue to Fountain street, and the matter was referred to investigate the matter.

BOARD OF REVISION.

Committee on Appeals—Proposition to Assess Church and Other Property Heretofore Exempt.

The Board of Revision met yesterday, B. F. Kennedy, Esq., in the chair.

The chairman appointed the following Committee on Appeals: Chas. B. Strain, George R. White, Charles W. Lewis, W. C. Taylor, Daniel Wenke, James Irwin and Samuel McElroy.

Mr. Drum offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee in each ward be instructed to put in their books all taxable property that had hitherto escaped taxation.

Mr. Nobbs offered the following:

Resolved, That the ward committees, while examining assessments, be requested to take account of the value of church, railroad and other property exempt from taxation.

Mr. Nobbs explained that it was not the design of the resolution to have church property assessed, but as there had been a great deal of inquiry about this, it was desirable to know how many millions—the exact amount of exempt property held by churches and corporations.

Mr. Kennedy (Mr. J. Irwin in the chair) explained that under the new Constitution the only church property exempted was that ground on which the church stood, and that vacant, unimproved property was taxable the same as any other property. He then read from Section 1, Article IX., on "Taxation and Finance," of the new Constitution, as follows:

SECTION 1. All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity.

Mr. Sims and others objected that the Board had nothing to do with this matter, but Mr. Kennedy contended that the Board had power to assess property, and it was for the proper tribunals to establish or not the legality of taxation.

In order to bring the matter to a focus, Mr. Kennedy offered the following as a substitute for Mr. Nobbs's resolution:

Resolved, That the ward committees be instructed to assess all property heretofore exempted by law, and let the parties aggrieved present their claims before the Committee on Appeals.

Several members objected, and the ayes and nays were called for, with the following result:

Ayes—Karney, Irwin, Sims, Strain, Miller, J., Mellheny, Cramer, Nobbs, Drum, McIlroy, S., Lewis, Miller, R., Latimer, Burke, Wenke, McDonnell, Chambers, Beck, Hemiup, Carleton, Swift—21.

Nays—Speer, Newman, Lappan, Bierman, McClure, Alexander, Jarrett, Stock, Poills, Smith and Taylor—11.

Carried.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, the Board then adjourned till Monday next at 10 A. M.

THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

The Petitions for a Prohibitory Law—Proposition to Establish a Temperance Daily Paper, Etc.

The Christian Temperance Alliance held a meeting yesterday morning, at their rooms, Mr. Carnagie in the chair.

The report of the committee on petitions for a prohibitory law, and against the repeal of the local option or existing license laws, was called for, and it stated that they had already sent about eight hundred petitions throughout the country, and that the remaining ones were in the hands of the printers, who refused to let them go until the bill for printing was paid for.

Colonel Glenn stated that thus far Mr. Rabe had been footing the bills for printing, and that it was not fair that he should have to pay all the expenses. About thirty dollars were wanting with which to secure the petitions, and he proposed that the Alliance should contribute at once toward paying the expenses of the institution.

A TEMPERANCE ORGAN.

The report of the committee on the publication of a daily paper was then read by Col. Glenn, as follows:

I. It is the unanimous opinion of your committee that the publication of a daily paper, devoted to the cause of the prohibition of the manufacture or the sale of intoxicating liquors or beverages is absolutely essential to the success of the prohibitory movement.

II. That the manifest interest of the public mind in the cause of prohibition demands the publication of such a paper.

III. We recommend the organization of a joint stock company, with a capital of not less than fifty thousand dollars, for the publication of such a paper.

IV. We recommend the appointment of a committee, consisting of five persons, for the purpose of completing the organization of a joint stock company for the publication of said paper.

A discussion followed, from which it was evident that the members present were divided in sentiment as to whether the project would pay. Some thought they could not succeed in carrying prohibition without an organ, while others believed if they had such an organ it would not be supported financially.

The report was finally accepted, and Messrs. Thomas H. Rabe, W. W. Grier, John Glenn, Wm. B. Ross, and T. H. Lane were appointed a committee to carry out the book company.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The proposition that the Alliance should endorse the sentiment. "That the cause of total abstinence will be greatly promoted by aiding 40,000 women who are friends of the cause, to obtain the right of suffrage," then came up for discussion, and after a spirited debate the matter was postponed indefinitely.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

U. S. District Court—Judge McCandless.

W. E. Schmertz & Co., of this city, creditors, filed a petition in bankruptcy against Louis B. Anderson, of Parker City. The usual order was made.

On petition of the assignee of W. O. Williams, of Erie county, bankrupt, a rule was granted on Ezra Cooper to show cause why he should not deliver to the assignee certain deeds and other papers. Returnable thirty days after service.

Joseph Williamson, of Allegheny City, debtor, filed an answer denying the allegation set forth in the petition of bankruptcy of D. Patterson & Co., creditors, and a day for hearing was awarded for the next term in this city.

The assignee of William W. Kingsland, of Crawford county, bankrupt, presented a petition asking that the injunction granted against C. L. J. Wynant et al. be so modified as to allow said Wynant to collect certain moneys and make disposition of certain property, and the same was allowed, and he was ordered to make monthly reports.

On petition of the assignees of Robert J. Grier, Allegheny City, bankrupt, an order was made for the sale of certain personal property to W. J. Friday.

Common Pleas Court—Judges Stowe and Collier.

In the case of S. H. Hartman, trustee, vs. J. and J. McDonald, action on a promissory note, the jury was withdrawn and the cause continued.

E. J. Mithoff vs. D. M. Frazier; action on a book account. The jury found for the plaintiff a verdict of $349 85.

Jacob Shafner vs. P. V. & C. R. R. Action for damages by the construction of said road over plaintiff's property. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth for use vs. Herriott et al.
McIver vs. Howley.
Denniston vs. Palmer.
Patrick & Co. vs. Cluley.
McVay & Co. vs. Canfield.
Beyer vs. Krauss.
Beyer vs. Keifer.
McKinney vs. Hackestein.
Beyer & Co., vs. Schaelein.
Bell et al. vs. Hoyle.
Liberty School District vs. Cunningham.
Petty vs. Deer et al.
Westfield vs. Jones et al.
White vs. Heilbruner.

District Court—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

The case of Downer vs. Brown is still on trial before Judge White.

The case of Duff vs. Wilson, taken up last week, is still on trial before Judge Kirkpatrick.

The trial list published yesterday will be subject to call to-day.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Sophia Hamm was acquitted of assault and battery, and the prosecutrix, Annie Stork, ordered to pay the costs.

Wm. Haid, charged with assault and battery, on Emil and Charles Kalkoff, a *nol. pros.* was allowed, defendant being in the House of Refuge.

Lottie S. Lamott plead guilty to keeping a disorderly house.

Louis Keib entered a plea of *nolo contendere* to an indictment of fornication on oath of Henry Gerke.

Rose Smith was placed on trial for adultry, on oath of Alice Tool. The jury is out.

David Hanna was directed to pay the costs in a case of assault and battery preferred by M. Fisher.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Ignatius Klenk,	Francis Kurtley,
Jacob C. Sarver,	J. J. Crawford,
Thos. Montgomery,	Edward Jordan,
Celia Burns,	Martha Graham,
John Wilkinson (2),	F. Myers alias Preston,
George Atherton,	Mary A. Gracy,
J. A. Kohrsen,	James Cunningham (2),
James McLaughlin,	Cravenor,
Sam'l D. Faulkner (2),	Benjamin Baker,
Gustave Kline,	Albert Fleishman,
Emil Kalkoff,	Samuel Reynolds.
Fred. Tremhaney,	Michael Renz,
Gustave Patche,	Celia Burns,
John Belber,	Edward Jordon,
William Bucket,	Christian Ross,
Emery Steel,	Solomon Haynes,
	David Coffee.

THE COKE TRADE.

Meeting of Connellsville Coke Manufacturers.

A meeting will be held to-day at 10½ o'clock A. M., at the Central Hotel, in this city, of the following parties: Joseph R. Stouffer, Duncan Bros., W. D. Mullen, John Moyers, Boyle & Haslett, Somtson & Staugh, Playford, Boyle & Wilson, Markle & Co., J. F. Overholt, B. F. Overholt & Co., Moore, Hurst & Co., A. A. Hutchinson & Bro., Painter & Strickler, W. A. Kifer, Ihmsen, Lake & Co., Neal, Shaw & Co., Morgan & Co., Fricke & Co., Strickler & Lane, and others, representing two thousand coke ovens in the Connellsville region, to consider the general interest of the trade, as coke is now being sold below the cost of production.

DIAMONDS.

Arrest of a Suspicious Character.

Through a pawnbroker, the police yesterday obtained information that a stranger was in the city offering for sale valuable diamonds under suspicious circumstances. Chief Irwin, with officers Messner and Herron, started on the hunt of the individual, and Mr. Messner arrested him at the pawn shop under the Central Hotel, where he had left his baggage preparatory to leaving the city. The prisoner was taken to the Mayor's office, where he gave his name as M. C. Dickson, and claimed to hail from North Carolina. He further claimed to be the agent of certain houses in New York, and professed to be able to produce documentary evidence of it, but in this he entirely failed, as we are informed by the police. He denied having any money, but on being searched no less a sum than $4,400 was found on his person. On examination it was found that under the name given, since Friday evening, he had registered at the Union Depot Hotel, the Central and the Monongahela House. It was further ascertained that Dickson had sold two diamonds to a pawn broker and three others to another party. The prisoner was placed in a cell on the Central Station House to await further developments. The robbery at Cincinnati on saturday last naturally leads to the belief that the goods sold by Dickson may be part of that "haul." Dispatches, we believe, have been sent there to ascertain, but we have as yet no further information regarding the matter.

Dickson, behind the bars, claims to be on the "square," that he represents responsible houses in New York, from whom dispatches, taken from his person, are in the hands of the Chief of Police. He says he came here from St. Louis, stopping at Cincinnati and Columbus a short time, and that he had with him two solitaire rings, two finger rings and one breast pin, the five set with diamonds. All these he disposed of here for $3,800 and a watch.

THE GREAT ST. LOUIS BRIDGE.

A Suit Involving $500,000—Novel Method of Adjudication—A Court and Jury Composed of Two Persons.

The Keystone Bridge Company, one of the most extensive bridge building companies in the United States, as is well known, took the contract for building the superstructure of that wonderful bridge over the Mississippi river at St. Louis, for the Illinois and St. Louis Bridge Company. The contract price for the superstructure was $2,000,000. The piers, as many of our readers doubtless know, cost an immense sum of money, as the contractors had to sink caissons through a solid sand and sixty-four feet below the level of the river, before a solid foundation could be had. The bridge is already nearly completed, and over $1,000,000, and it is not yet completed. During the construction of the superstructure, many changes and alterations from the original plans were made, for which the Keystone Bridge Company were to receive compensation. The Illinois and St. Louis Bridge Company advanced payments upon the estimates of the engineers, but a large sum is now in dispute between the two parties. For the purpose of settling these disputes, various plans were submitted and rejected by both sides. Finally the counsel for the Keystone Bridge Company proposed a novel plan of settlement, which was this: To submit all matters in controversy to the arbitrament of two persons, one to be sole judge of the facts, and the other sole judge of the law—their decision to be final, and without exception or appeal. The counsel for the Illinois and St. Louis Bridge Company accepted the proposition, and our well known fellow citizen, Mr. James Park, Jr., has been selected to determine the facts, and Hon. Stanley Matthews, of Cincinnati, judge of law. The Board will meet at the Monongahela House, in this city, to-day, when they will proceed to discharge the duties devolving upon them. Under the terms of the arbitration, a decision must be rendered in sixty days.

The amount involved on the part of the Keystone Bridge Company is over $500,000. The Illinois and St. Louis Bridge Company's counter claims for damages, detentions, etc., amounting to over $300,000. Messrs. Lover & Shepley, of St. Louis, appear as counsel for the Illinois company, and Mr. S. Schoyer, Jr., of this city, for the Keystone Company. The result will be looked for with interest, not only on account of the large sums of money involved but also because of the novel method of adjudication.

SUICIDE.

A Man Deliberately Shoots Himself.

Intelligence reached Coroner McCallin yesterday afternoon that a man had committed suicide in the Twenty-fourth ward. The Coroner repaired to the scene and held an inquest over the body. The deceased, Charles Kalbach, or Goldbach, resided near Laughlin's coal tipple, was thirty-five years of age, and leaves a wife and six children. Between two and three o'clock in the afternoon he took an army gun and, placing the mouth of it to his breast, fired a charge of shot, the contents which almost literally tore his heart out. A verdict of death from suicide was rendered. Deceased, it appears, had been drinking considerably of late, and had became almost an imbecile.

Hon. Wm. Parsons.

It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that Hon. William Parsons will deliver the next lecture of the regular Library course on Thursday evening next. His subject is George Stephenson.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

The Allegheny Board of School Controllers meet this evening.

We regret to learn that Prof. Charles Dickey, of the Western University, is seriously ill.

Coe, Jones & Co. have resigned his position of member of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The Special Committee appointed to prepare an ordinance for a Board of Water Commission, will meet to-day to consider the matter.

The arrangement for the payment for the hospital site selected by the Board of Health has not yet been effected with Gen. Moorhead and Capt. Reed, owners of the property.

On a warrant issued by William J. Logan, collector of taxes in the Seventh ward, John McKenna was committed to jail yesterday afternoon in default of taxes. The amount assessed against him is $4 80.

By the fire at Ogden & Bro.'s woolen mill, in Philadelphia, on Wednesday last, the following insurance companies in this city and Allegheny are interested: Ben. Franklin, $1,250; Iron City, $1,250; Federal, $1,885.

Mr. Marlatt, a gentleman about seventy-five years of age, and a resident of Sewickley, was knocked down by a horse and buggy on Second avenue, this morning, at 9 o'clock for a walk, when he suddenly fell down dead on his doorstep. The cause assigned is heart disease.

There is much comment among citizens of the Fifth ward on the refusal of the Postmaster General to extend the free delivery system to that district. It is claimed that the matter was not properly presented to the Postmaster General, and had not received the attention that its importance demanded from its Representative at Washington. A committee composed of Messrs. Jenkin, Jones, R. B. Atterbury, J. G. Krehan, in company with Postmaster Negley, will consequently present the matter to General Cresswell, and will leave the city this week for that purpose.

A LAND OF DEATH.

The Scene of the British Operations in Africa.

A letter from Cape Coast Castle, Africa, to the *Tribune* says:

"Since the arrival of Sir Garnet Wolseley, immense sanitary improvements have taken place, and, through during the rainy season it will always be unhealthy for Europeans, it is probable that the mortality will never again approach the terrible percentage which has hitherto distinguished it. The average life of a European here was less than two years. Much of this was due to the inherent defect of the climate, but far more to the absence of all sanitary precautions. The wise policy of inducing the natives to adhere to any sanitary regulation was so great that this and all other precautions appear to have been abandoned. Every drain, and the springs and little streams are fouled with every kind of animal and vegetable matter. The wells are poisoned from the very percolating through a soil soaked with impurities. The dead are all buried under the floors of the houses, and add their share to the general poison, and, lastly, the tanks in the earth, from which the troops drew their supply, were as foul, as fetid and as poisonous as the general supply. Such a condition of things would generate fever in a week in any city in temperate climes, and we wonder, then, that Cape Coast was deadly to the white man? At present all the water used for drinking purposes is filtered in the admirable tank-filters invented by Capt. Crease and used in the British navy. They are simple, economical, impossible to get out of order, and unbounded in their supply. I recommend them to the attention of ship owners in the United States. It is to them that it is due that the health of the officers and men here at present continues so much better than it had been. A number of other sanitary improvements have been made, and before the termination of Sir Garnet Wolseley's rule, it is hoped that a supply of pure water will be found for all the wants of the town will be brought in bamboo troughs from the Sweet river, a distance of six miles only."

All the Southern Ohio towns are engaged in the temperance movement, the women resorting to their prayer meetings in front of saloons as the best means for closing up the bars.

A man went into a house in San Francisco last night, and murdered a young woman with a razor, afterwards killing himself with the same weapon.

The Seats

are selling rapidly at the Opera House,

Ginger Ale on Draught.

Ginger Ale on Draught.
Ginger Ale on Draught.
Ginger Ale on Draught.

A pleasant and refreshing winter beverage that gives a glow and warmth to the entire system unequaled by any other drink. It will relieve a sore throat and cure a cold, and is destined to be the most popular beverage for home use. We have spared neither pains or expense in the preparation of this article, which is in strict accordance with the most celebrated receipt. Drop in at the COMMERCIAL Drug Store, opposite the Postoffice, and try a glass. "If cheers, but does not inebriate."

MCCLARREN & MCKENNAN.

We are also prepared to sell to druggists of soda water the genuine "*Est, of Ginger Ale,*" from which the above is made.

It is Remarkable

how Maggie Mitchell draws at the Opera House.

BRUTE MAN.

Horrible History of a Wild Family.

The Nude Nymph and Ugly Satyr of a Pennsylvania Wilderness—Their Language Gibberish and Their Brains Idiotic—Infanticide, Sororicide and Attempted Parricide—Original Sin in Its Unrestrained Development.

[Correspondence New York Herald.]

TUNKHANNOCK, WYOMING COUNTY, PA., January 15, 1874.

William Parks, aged about twenty-one years, has been lodged in jail at this place for repeated attempts to take the life of his father, Stephen Wells Parks, of the town of Monroe, this county. This brings into prominence the history of the Parks family, known as the "Wild Family of Monroe," which, without exceeding the bounds of truth in the least, is one of the most singular on record.

DISCOVERY OF THE WOOD NYMPH.

In the fall of 1871 a party from Pittston, Luzerne county, were hunting in the mountains of this county. In a wild, lonely spot, miles from any habitation, one of them, hearing a rustling in the leaves and bushes on one side of him, was astounded to see a young woman, perfectly nude, digging among the leaves, apparently for beech nuts. She was on her hands and knees, and was not aware of the hunter's presence for some time. When she saw him she uttered a harsh cry and started off like a deer through the woods and was soon out of sight. Determined, if possible, to find out something more in regard to this singular apparition, the hunter summoned his companions together, told them what he had seen, and proposed that they follow in the direction she had taken, and endeavor to learn where she came from.

THE SATYR.

The party walked for about a mile through the woods and came to a small clearing. In one corner of this clearing was a miserable hovel, built of logs and with a roof of straw. They went towards it. Before they reached it the girl who had been seen by their companion came out of the door, and following after her was a boy, also entirely naked. They jumped about the door, as if playing, on all fours, picking up something from the ground occasionally and eating it. The hunters stood for a moment speechless with surprise at the most singular spectacle, and then approached nearer. They were soon seen by the wild beings—for wild they were—who at once ran swiftly off and hid in the woods.

A MODERN CRUSOE.

Coming up to the door of the hut, the hunters looked in. On a bench in the middle of the room sat an old man, reading from a large book which rested on his knees. His clothing was scant and ragged, and evidently made by himself. A long white beard reached nearly to his waist, and, like his hair, was matted and unkempt. There was no furniture in the room, except the bench. In one corner some straw was scattered about as if for a bed. The bare ground formed the floor. Near one end of the room a hole was dug, in which there was a fire. Over this was an iron pot in which something was boiling. Everything betokened the most abject wretchedness; filth and dirt were on every side.

HIS NUDE CHILDREN.

The old man arose when the strangers came to the door. He was below the medium height, and had a sharp, bright eye and an intelligent face. He invited the gentlemen into his house, and asked them in polite terms the nature of their errand. The hunters were at a loss at first to explain, but finally told the old man what they had seen in the woods and about his door, and expressed a curiosity to know who and what the strange beings were.

The old man laughed and said:

"Those are my children, William and Melissa. Their mother died about eight years ago, and, through during the tropical rain which falls here almost every day, the children have long ago passed into the past. Withers is a representative man in the new era in Virginia politics."

Jesse D. Bright was expelled from the United States Senate for writing a letter to Jefferson Davis no worse than that of Cushing's just discovered. In justice, Cushing's appointment as Minister to Spain ought to be revoked.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

STATE NEWS.

House renters in Waynesburg demand a reduction of fifteen per cent. in rents.

A call has been issued to all Welshmen in central Pennsylvania to meet at Shenandoah to-morrow for the purpose of forming a religious union similar in character to the Evangelical Alliance.

The widows of Waynesburg outnumber the widowers about four or five to one. The girls are also numerically stronger than the boys. A good resort for disconsolate bachelors.

Robert Pickens was injured in July last, by the falling of a flag-staff, at Chester Springs, Chester county, his arm being dislocated. The physician called to attend him insisted that the arm was fractured, and put it in splints. Result, a useless member; whereupon Mr. Pickens sues the doctor for $20,000 damages for malpractice.

Montgomery county claims the oldest church in the State, situated in Lower Merion township, two miles from Manayunk. It is 179 years old.

The Corry Common Council have agreed to take back $15,000 of the bonds issued to the Corry Furniture Company. This company were to receive $25,000 for keeping a certain number of men at work for a certain time, but this arrangement don't pay.

A horse between thirty-five and forty years old, was killed in Lebanon county, the other day, because he broke his leg. What a pity they did not let him live to grow older.

The Reading *Eagle* says: "The furnaces in the lower section of the city are running, in full blast, and there is every reason to believe they will so continue. This is a refreshing and an acceptable bit of information in these days of starvation and strikers. The furnaces are running on full time and employ quite a number of men."

The *Derrick* says: A Franklin blood took out a young girl for a cutter drive one evening last week, proceeding in the direction of Cooperstown. Four or five miles from the city he attempted to make improper advances to his companion, who resented his baseness with becoming spirit. Her persistent refusal to accede to his vile proposals finally enraged the miserable cur to such a degree that he threatened to pitch her out of the veh